MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, THE FARM AND THE GARDEN.

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Editorial.

AMONG THE MOUNTAINS.

NUMBER II.

The source of the Saco is a little pond in front of the old Crawford's hotel. It seems little more than a mud hole there, but a short distance below it receives two beautiful cascades that come tumbling down the steep and precipitous sides of Mt. Webster, and the little rivulet soon swells into a rushing and at times tumultuous stream. Standing as we did upon the summit of Mt. Willard, the Valley of the Saco is seen to the best advantage, for the narrow gorge known as the White Mountain Notch lies at our feet, closely hemmed in, to be sure, by lofty and rugged mountains on either side, with the lofty cone of Chocorua rising, as it were, at the extreme eastern end of the Notch, though in fact the river bends and winds away to the left, long before we reach the foot of that beautiful cone.

Of course there can be nothing like farming in this somewhat historical and always picturesque defile. The Willey House, five miles below Crawford's still stands, as a sort of monument to perpetuate the recollection of the terrible calamity that occurred here, a sort of repetition of similar disasters with which every traveller among the Alps is familiar. The road follows the windings of the river which every now and then receives the accession of some famous trout brook, till we reach the well known trout breeding establishment of Dr. Bemis, and so on down through the towns of Bartlett and Jackson, where it takes in another good sized branch, and becomes a wide and beautiful river.

North Conway lies upon the Saco, though the broad and beautiful intervales which here meet us for the first time since leaving the source of this mountain fed stream, do not charm the eye with their rich and luxuriant crops like the Valley of the Connecticut, the Housatonic and most other alluvial deposits.

The intervales are light and sandy, and so far as we could see, not at all remarkable for fertility. Still they are charming on account of their locality, and the grand repose they seem to give to the valley, surrounded as it is with lofty and precipitous mountains, with the grand old Kiarsarge rising up, as it were, from the bed of the laughing river.

At the foot of this mountain, towards the northern end of the quiet little village of North Conway, our friend, the Hon. E. B. Bigelow, has, within a year or two, bought a hundred and seventy-five acres of land, consisting of woodland, upland pasture and intervale, and is working out of it one of the finest farms in New Hampshire. We have been familiar with the plans of the enterprise from its origin, and it was, therefore, with great pleasure that we availed ourselves of an opportunity to make a closer inspection of the premises.

Mr. Bigelow built a dwelling house last year, on one of the finest and most commanding elevations on the estate, overlooking the valley land and still surrounded by a variety of forest trees of nature's own planting. The grounds are being gradually brought into shape by grading. The great work of the present season is the building of a barn and stable for horses. This structure is somewhat elaborate in design, but on the whole appears to be admirably adapted to the purpose in view.

No one familiar with Mr. Bigelow's world-wide reputation as an inventor and the inestimable services he has rendered to the world by his numerous patents in connection with the carpet loom and other complicated and ingenious manufacturing machinery will be surprised to be told that the designs of this barn are his own, or that he has arranged many of the details about the horse stalls for drainage and ventilation, which are quite original with him, and in some respects a vast improvement on anything of the kind we have ever seen. For this reason, if for no other, we should be glad to present these plans in full, as they involve many practical points which constitute decided additions to our present knowledge of barn architecture. No description, however, without the published plans to illustrate it would do justice to the subject, but we hope to be able, at some future day, to devote more space to it, and to lay before the readers of the *Ploughman*, in detail, the best features involved in these plans. Perfect ventilation without cold drafts falling upon the animals and the complete economy of manures, both solid and liquid, may be regarded as the strong points attaind, while convenience in performing alle the operations in the care of the horses is included in the results accomplished by the plans.

Mr. Bigelow early this spring employed as foreman of the farm, Mr. G. H. Allen, a graduate of the class of 1871 of the Massachusetts Agricultural College. The operations of building have very naturally, and of necessity, interrupted those of the farm for this year, to such an extent that very little could be done in carrying out the ultimate designs in the improvement of the land. We walked over the broad and beautiful intervale to the banks of the Saco. The grass, like that on all these intervales was chiefly couch or "twitch" grass, which comes in naturally and very abundantly, so much so as to crowd out the better grasses and to present great obstacles to the cultivation of hoed crops. If this grass is cut early, it makes pretty good hay, but after it begins to ripen it soon gets to be hard and woody.

It is a curious fact that while most farmers in New England would give a great deal to get this grass out of their land, the Nova Scotia farmers esteem it so highly that they take pains to save and sow the seed, and the government officers at Halifax prefer to buy the hay made from couch grass to any other to feed to the army horses there. It is rather the favorite grass of the lower Provinces, therefore, and they do not object to it as we do.

But the great pest of these Saco Valley farmers appears to be the vast army of grasshoppers that swarm in untold numbers in the fields and gardens, eating up every green thing. We have seen nothing like it this side of Utah territory, where they exist in myriads beyond the po wer of man to number. On Mr. Bigelow's farm they had completely destroyed a field of carrots so that not a vestige remained to be seen, and they had greatly injured the fodder corn, while at the time of our visit they were turning their attention to the grass that was still uncut the haying not being entirely finished, feeding upon the leaves and letting the stem and head, or panicle go free. It was a melancholy sight, presenting the possibility of fattening a whole army of turkeys at a small cost. We hope Mr. Bigelow will direct his inventive genius to the discovery of some practical method of getting rid of them, or of stopping their depredations.

This beautiful place offers great natural inducements for development, as the location is one of the finest in the world. We shall take an early opportunity to look in upon it again and hope to be able to report satisfactory progress.

MUCK, SALT AND LIME.

The wide spread inquiry as to the nature and properties of muck, and the most economical methods of preparation and use, is evidence enough of the general deficiency of fertilizers and the want of some cheap and and efficient substitute for them. There is scarcely another subject which has been so much discussed as this. We have many inquiries similar to the following:

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

We wish to know more about the prepared muck, mentioned by Prof. Mapes in the *Ploughman* of June 22nd, 1872. How is the salt and lime mixture made? What proportion of each and how prepared? Which is best, to slack the lime with water or let it air slack? Should the muck be drawn out on dry land to be mixed with the salt and lime mixture, or may it be done in the heap in the muck swamp;

CHAS. W. BRACKETT.

Lemington, N. H., July 29, 1872.

Muck, as every farmer knows, is a vegetable deposit found in swamps or low places. It is made up chiefly of decayed organic matter, with more or less earthy substances intermixed. It is largely, indeed almost wholly composed of carbon, in various states of development, resulting from decomposition. Of course every particular specimen of muck will differ more or less from another sample taken from another locality, since the conditions under which it was formed differ. One bed or swamp may be comparatively dry for a large part of the year, another submerged and kept wet. The best muck is usually found in dry beds, where the water which once caused the deposit has been removed. It is finer and more completely decomposed. When muck is thrown out of its bed and laid up in ridges, so that the water is dried out of it, the process of decomposition goes on rapidly. It becomes pulverized and broken down.

In addition to this natural preparation or weathering by a simple exposure to the atmosphere, Prof. Mapes recommended treating it with what he called *his* salt and lime mixture, though what claim he had to it we do not know, as the effect of slacking lime with salt water and the value of salt and lime as a fertilizer were known long before his day. Mapes recommended to take at the rate of three bushels of shell lime, direct from the kiln, or fresh as possible and slack it with water in which one bushel of salt has been dissolved. Use no more water than is necessary to take up the salt. The method of doing it is to put the salt into a basket and hang it up in a large tub of water. In this way the salt water settles to the bottom, as it is the heaviest, so that the freshest water is constantly around the salt. All the salt can be dissolved in this way and it will make a very strong brine, which is to be used in slacking the lime. The lime unites with the chlorine of the salt and forms chloride of lime. If shell lime is not at hand any pure lime will do.

The above treatment, or slacking lime with a strong brine, is what is known as the salt and lime mixture. This was applied to and composted with the muck, four bushels of this mixture being used to one cord of muck, making the compost under cover, and letting it lie a month or so till the whole mass becomes a fine powder. This is what Mapes called *prepared muck*, in the article alluded to in the *Ploughman* of June 22nd, where it appeared for the first time in print, though it was written by Prof. Mapes more than twenty years ago.

In theory, all that Mapes says in that article about the use of muck looks very well; but only think of the vast amount of manipulation he advises, and labor on the farm worth two or three dollars a day! Such a theory is entirely out of date in these days. Couldn't stand it anyhow.

FENCES.

The immense cost of sustaining fences; the inconvenience of having them always in the way of thorough tillage, and of easy egress and ingress to the premises; the impassible snowdrifts accumulated by them; the shelter they afford to weeds and briars; the protection they afford to many of the worst animal pests of the farm, and their unsightly appearance generally throughout the country, as the receptacle of stone heaps, piles of brush and dead leaves, to say nothing of the countless acres rendered worse than useless by their occupancy, would seem sufficient reasons for disposing of fences where not indispensable for purposes of pasturing.

☞ Bees consume large quantities of water when building comb and raising brood. Want of water is one of the causes of dysentery among bees. A bucket or trough filled with water, with a few pieces of old comb or sticks for the bees to alight upon and drink in safety, should be kept near the hives.—*N. E. Journal.*

Questions & Answers.

PURE MILK ASSOCIATION.

OFFICE OF THE "PRACTICAL FARMER," Philadelphia, 7 Mo., 22, 1872.

Will the Editor of the *Massachusetts Ploughman* be kind enough to inform me of some of the details of business organization and plans of the Milk Consumers' Protective Association?

I observe it noticed recently in the *Ploughman*, due credit for the movement being given to William E. Baker. Is it an association of citizens, or of farmers?

We are trying to get up some movement of the kind in Philadelphia, but *originating with farmers*, who seem to be, if possible, worse imposed on by milk dealers than the citizens.

Any information will be thankfully received by

Very respectfully,
Your friend,
PASCHALL MORRIS.

The movement was originally started by the citizens, we believe, with a determination to see if it were not practicable to sell pure milk in the city of Boston. So far as we know farmers have co-operated with those who undertook this herculean task, and the result is that better milk is sold in Boston than we have ever known to be sold before. Every possible obstacle has been thrown in the way of the success of the Association, by the dealers and parties interested in the old trade. From thirteen to fifteen hundred milk cans, large and small, belonging to the new association have been destroyed, smashed up or stolen; the employees have been bribed and the milk in many cases exchanged from the pure milk carts to the old and *vice versa*, and yet the association has been able to hold its own.

There are as yet no articles of association. The company will probably organize under our general laws as a corporation, and we shall probably have pure milk depots in various parts of the city, the heads of which will become interested in the business with certain guarantees for their fidelity, and each of these stations will receive pure milk from the producers or their agents at the several railroad stations in this city. We regard the final success of the movement as certain, and it is a blessing which every householder who has a family of children has reason to rejoice over. We forward you various blanks which may be of some service.—[Ed.

THE BRITTANY COW

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

Will you advise me as to the average size, weight, amount of milk, *temper*, ease of milking, if extra expensive to keep, &c., of the Brittany cow?

Where may thoroughbreds be had? What price? I want one for city use, to be barn kept, with run on a lawn; milk and cream for table use and for children. Do not care for butter qualities, &c.

Seeing in an exchange an item regarding these cows, copied from the *Ploughman*, I take this method of gaining particulars, and shall be pleased to reciprocate the favor.

Very truly yours,
R. F. DANFORTH.

Cleveland, Ohio, July 24, 1872.

The Brittany cow will average from thirty-six to forty-two inches high from the hoof to the top of the foreshoulder. Mr. Flint has an imported cow six years old, recently bought of Gen. Paine, that measured only about thirty-two inches high, but the average height is a little over three feet. The weight varies from three hundred to five hundred pounds. A two year old heifer owned by the Massachusetts Agricultural College, full with calf and in high condition, weighed 445 pounds.

The milk varies, of course, like that of other cows, but it is usually from eight to ten quarts a day at the height of the flow, and it holds out exceedingly well, and is of high quality. We know of no breed of cows of so uniformly good temper, as the Brittany. They are docile and like to be petted and fondled. They are very easy and pretty milkers, the teats generally long enough, with a free and easy flow. So far as our observation has gone, they are easier milkers than the Ayrshires, and the teats, as a general rule, much better developed as to length and size.

As to the expense of keeping, we never saw cows of any breed more easily kept, and though no careful and exact experiments have been made, so far as we know, we think they will not consume more than half as much as our larger cows to keep in the same condition. They come up full and satisfied, on short, rocky and hard pastures, which is more than the larger cows in the same herd do.

We do not know where they can be had. Mr. J. W. Clark, of Framingham, now in Europe, is expected to import a few.—[Ed.

WHERE PLASTER IS SERVICEABLE.

The *Journal of Chemistry* says:—From ascertained facts we should infer that plaster must prove highly serviceable to moist, mossy hills, and also to meadows not too wet, and this has proved correct so far as our observations extend. Often we have found that the north side of a hill will be greatly benefitted by plaster, while upon the southern exposure it has no perceptible effect. This is due to the fact that the northern slope is cooler, or often in shade, and has more moisture, and a larger amount of partially decayed vegetation, to aid in the promotion of those chemical changes to which we have alluded. It is certain that it does not matter so much what may be the nature of the soil to which we apply plaster, as external agencies are principally concerned in fitting it for plant food.

While the question as to how plaster acts in all cases as a fertilizer cannot be regarded as fixedly settled, yet we have certain facts to guide us in its application which are of the highest importance. With what we know, it would be absurd for a farmer to apply the agent to a dry silicious plain, or to a hot, impoverished hill; and also it would be unwise to sow it upon a meadow which is covered by water six months in the year. It must also be observed that the season has much to do with the effect of plaster. During the past three or four seasons of extreme drouth, its application has notably failed upon almost all fields, but as soon as we have continued moisture through the summer months, it will manifest its influence upon vegetation.

Plaster may be applied with confidence to pastures and fields which are strong enough and moist enough to sustain a good growth of deciduous trees. Pine lands are not usually benefited by it. A hill side where moss will grow so as to crowd out good grasses is usually promptly benefitted by plaster, and the white clover comes in at once. These suggestions we think may serve to throw light on the use of plaster as an important fertilizing agent to our fields, and also serve to show that we are not entirely in the dark respecting one of the most obscure problems connected with husbandry.

MILK AND ITS PRODUCTS.

ARTICLE NO. III.

[From an Essay delivered before the Vermont Dairymen's Association, by Alexander Hyde.]

Fresh butter, as we have seen, does not consist of pure fat, but contains also about one sixth part of its weight of cheese, sugar and water. If it were pure fat like lard, it would keep for a long time, but as the cream rises it carries along with it a variable portion of casein and sugar. The casein is highly nitrogenous, and when exposed in a moist state to the air at a moderate temperature it begins to ferment, decay, and emit a disagreeable odor. In this state it possesses the property of inducing a chemical change in other substances with which it comes in contact, very analogous to the change which yeast produces on sweet dough. The whole mass inclines rapidly to fermentation and putrefaction. The oil of the butter becomes rancid and the milk sugar is changed into lactic acid. To prevent this action of the casein in butter it is customary to add some antiseptic as common salt, saltpetre, or sugar, sometimes all three, but more commonly only salt, in the proportion of one twenty-fourth to one twentieth of the weight of the butter. The first action of this salt is to unite with the water still remaining in the butter, for which it has great attraction, and to make the butter more compact, and as it is worked the water oozes out, carrying along with it a portion of the salt. The full action of salt in the preservation of butter and meat, is a little mysterious. Whether it unites chemically with the casein of the butter and the fibrin of the beef, substances very similar in their chemical composition, chemists are not agreed; but this we know, that all the water which remains in butter must be saturated with salt, and that the butter must be worked till all the casein that remains comes in contact with it. If, now, the tub into which the butter is firmly packed be sprinkled with salt so that the moisture of the wood may not extract the salt from the contiguous butter, and if the surface be also sprinkled with salt, first having been covered with cloth so as to exclude as far as possible the air, the butter should keep for any required length of time. It will keep unless the seeds of decay shall have been sown in the milk or cream previous to churning. If the cream has been kept for a week in a warm kitchen filled with foul air, we would not like to warrant the butter to keep, however salted.

This leads us to say that churning the whole milk daily, is the surest method of getting and keeping sweet butter. This involves some labor from the large mass of fluid to be kept in motion, but it has the advantage of producing more butter and of better quality. The Orange county farmers attribute the delicate, nutty flavor of their butter in part to their practice of churning milk instead of cream. As the labor is generally performed by water, dog or sheep power, they do not consider it an additional expense.

The next great product of milk is cheese. This is a very old article of diet, for Job, one of the oldest of authors, if not the oldest extant, says "Hast thou not poured me out like milk, and curdled me like cheese?" Cheese was one of the articles in the commissary department of King David during his bloody wars. It should be among the rations not only of every army, but of every family, for it is one of the most concentrated and at the same time one of the cheapest forms of food. On account of its decided taste, it is not so universally palatable as butter, but it is a higher type of food, outranking even lean beef in its power of nutrition. Whether made of fresh milk or skimmed, it is always a too concentrated form of food from which to make a square meal. Neither does it, like milk, contain all the elements of nutrition in the right proportion for sustaining life. The nitrogenous, the muscle forming element is in excess, while sugar can only be traced in the minutest quantity, being found in solution in the whey. Hence the common practice, founded on the instincts of nature rather than the deductions of science, of eating cheese with bread or some other article of food in which starch abounds. The English laborer uniformly goes into the hay field with a luncheon of bread and cheese, and Sir Humphrey Davy could not prescribe a better lunch for him.

Cheese varies so greatly in its composition, according to the milk from which it is made, and the mode of its manufacture, that it is difficult to make an analysis that will give the constituents of the average article. Now and then a cheese is made from the new milk of the morning, with the cream of the previous evening added. More frequently the process is to add the milk of the previous evening with the cream removed. This is by no means a poor cheese. What is called a skimmed milk cheese is one made from milk all of which has had the cream removed once. If the milk is skimmed two or three times or after it has stood two or three days, it then makes what is commonly called a white oak cheese, hard enough, when cured, to form the wheel of a truck cart. Such a cheese is still rich in casein, and when grated and eaten with bread and butter, is both palatable and nutritious.

Johnston gives the analysis of new milk and skimmed milk cheese as follows:

New Milk.		Skimmed Milk.	
Water, 36 per cent.		44 per cent.	
Fat, 30	"	45	"
Casein, 29	"	6	"
Ash, 4	"	5	"
Total, 100		100	

The great value of cheese as food may be seen by comparing the above analysis with the analysis of fresh lean beef, such as we find in round steak. The latter gives

Water and Blood	78 per cent.
Fibrin	19 "
Fat	3 "
Total	100

It will be seen that the skimmed milk cheese has more than twice as much casein, or muscle forming material as beef, and just twice as much fat. It is usual to estimate that the average cheese contains, weight for weight, two and a half times as much nutrition as lean beef, and this is not far out of the way. As cheese generally costs less per pound than beefsteak, it is good economy to eat more cheese and less beef. But at the same time it should be said that cheese has no such stimulating effect on the animal system as beef has, neither is it so easily digested. There is a volatile principle in fresh beef, called creatine, which acts as a stimulant on the nerves, much like the theine of tea. This is entirely wanting in cheese.

AN EXPERIMENTAL FARM.

The following practical and valuable article was prepared at our suggestion by Dr. Goldsmith of Rutland, Vt., with reference to its presentation to the Agricultural Convention called at Washington last February, where it was supposed the most practicable methods by which the government could advance the great interests of agriculture would be discussed. It is worthy of a careful perusal.

If it is a proper and useful office for the general government to gather facts and knowledge in agriculture, and disseminate them for the furtherance of the farmer's pursuit, it is evidently equally proper for this authority to provide means for the gathering of new facts, for determining the exact value of received rules and processes, and for solving questions which, from the magnitude of the cost of solution, are placed beyond the reach of private enterprise.

Inventors in the mechanic arts are rewarded by patent rights. Discoveries in manufacturing processes are stimulated by the same subsidies. But the determination of methods of culture, the values of processes, the discoveries of new facts, the reinvestigation of traditio nary theories, the adjustment of ascertained facts to new or varied conditions, have no pecuniary rewards.

The number of men gifted for and trained to accurate, searching, scientific investigation is small at best, and, in proportion to those engaged in it, agriculture has fewer than any educated calling on earth.

Every fact touching agriculture concerns every one who eats. Every discovery in it, if valuable, enriches the whole nation. Every saving in a farming process is a saving to every body. Increased production of land is increased national wealth. There is no interest, there is no occupation, so completely national as the agricultural. Like education and civil rights it concerns everybody from the highest to the lowest, from the richest to the poorest—most nearly the poor, for with them the question of bread is the transcendent question of life. If millions may be rightly expended in determining the efficiency of offensive arms and defensive armature—in ascertaining the best means for defending the nation from assault, may not something be given to defend its people from that sternest foe of want—the wolf that stands at the poor man's door. If untold wealth may be lavished in securing our homes and industry to us, may we not spare something to make these homes freer from want and more enjoyable? If the possession of land makes the citizen stabler, surely that which increases the reward of labor on that land must confirm that stability.

If, apart from the influence of the love of country as an abstract sentiment, very much of the blood and treasure the average man is free to spend in defence of his country, is determined by the amount of treasure he has in it, be it liberty, property, or industry, are not his soldierly possibilities made the more valuable for national defence by all that augments his interest in the nation's safety?

Discoveries in war engines give to the discoverer's nation but a temporary advantage. The iron clad on the James was formidable only until another iron clad—a monitor could be built—and after that battles of iron clads were determined by the wealth of the parties making them. The science of war is a science common to all civilized nations. The best kept secrets of offensive arms are divulged to the world on the first battle field. The breech loader attesting its efficacy on one field soon becomes the arm of all armies. National inventions are not conserved by patent rights. France did not ask of Prussia the use of the patent right of a needle gun. Her use of the invention was determined by her ability to purchase it in her own or in foreign markets.

While it is true that all scientific discovery is in some sense the property of all science, and, therefore, of all peoples, applied science is local in its belongings. The relation of food to temperature concerns all farmers not only in this country, but in all countries, but the application of it to pork production has to be modified by the varied conditions of localities as well as of climate. So that while something of all discovery enriches all knowledge, the solution of the problems of agricultural industry enriches chiefly the nation working out the solution, and with wealth the potencies of wealth.

Now what can Congress, the concrete nation, do to further agriculture? Much, and in varied ways. What do the farmers in this country want and need the most? Knowledge, accurate, well defined, well determined facts.

A farmer in Ohio has in his crib a thousand bushels of corn, on the first day of October, and he has in his pen fifty hogs moderately well fatted for slaughter. He asks shall I sell my hogs now at five cents per lb., and my corn at fifty cents per bushel? Or shall I feed the corn to my hogs through the month? On the first of November he again asks the question. The question recurs in December.

Now the knowledge he wants is this: Given the mean temperature of October in Ohio, at the place where he lives, what number of pounds of corn will make a hundred pounds of pork? Given the mean temperatures of November and December, what number of pounds of corn will make an hundred pounds of pork? or to put the question in more abstract form, what is the relation of temperature to the consumption of corn for the production of pork?

While it is known that temperature does exercise an influence—while it is known that an hundred pounds of corn will produce more pork in the month of October than in December—yet it is not known in practice or reference to Ohio or any other particular locality in this country, exactly or nearly approximately what the difference is, and of consequence one will feed at a loss while another feeds at a gain, and neither is much wiser by his experience, nor are their neighbors.

Again, a farmer has corn and hogs, and is so situated that, by reason of the charges of transportation, pork is his only exportable product. He asks, however, will it pay for me to build pig pens to feed my hogs in; or in other words he asks what is the influence of exposure to the weather in the consumption of food; or in more abstract form what is the difference in the abstraction of animal heat between a still body of air and a body of air moving with a given velocity. Or still in other words how much more corn must a hog weighing 100 pounds eat to maintain his condition in a still atmosphere or in a wind of say 20 miles an hour, at a temperature, say, of 32 degrees.

Again, a hog grower in Massachusetts says: Will it pay me to have my corn ground, and cooked. Grinding and cooking are determinable costs, but will the increased production of pork pay? In other words he asks how many less pounds of ground and cooked than of uncooked and unground corn will it take to make an hundred pounds of pork? Or in more abstract terms, how much of unground corn passes undigested in fattening hogs; how much of ground corn; how much of uncooked; how much of cooked; or in still more abstract form, what is the influence of boiling and comminution on the facility of solution in the gastric and intestinal juices.

These are a few of the questions which the pork producer asks. They are the simplest and most pressing. They have occurred time and time again to every man who grows hogs. Can any one answer them?

Perhaps, it may be said, any farmer can try these experiments for himself. Let us look at the simplest, the mere question of ground or unground meal. The experimenter would have to take two separate lots of hogs of the same age, nurture, breed, sex, condition, weight, temper, health, vigor of digestion and disposition to lay on fat. The larger the number the nearer the aggregate and average might be approximated. These would have to be housed with like temperatures and exposures and facilities for feeding. Each lot would have to be weighed at stated intervals. They would have to be fed so much of their live weight daily for one period and so much for another. The excreta of every day's dropping would have to be gathered and weighed. The alvine dejections of each lot would have to be examined by proper tests for determining the amount of starch and other constituents of the corn, etc., a constant record of temperature, etc. Is the experiment probable or possible to individual farmers?

Let us take another example, that of a young man coming into possession of a farm on which he designs entering upon the dairy industry. He wants to know what kind of cows he shall purchase, what kind of cows will be most profitable for butter making. Shall it be the Alderney, Ayrshire, Hereford, Durham, grades or native stock, small cattle or large cattle. He wants to know, through the agency of what breed of cows he can transform a given number of tons of hay, of acres of pasturage into the most pounds of butter. He asks is the consumption of food, other things being equal, governed solely by the live weight of the animal? Does the product of butter bear a constant relation to the quantity and quality of the food consumed? Not only does he want the answer to these questions in general terms, but also in relation to his own agricultural region, for that which is the best butter cow in Ohio may not be the best in Vermont.

What farmer, or association of farmers, can put upon trial each class of cows in numbers large enough to eliminate the vitiating elements of individual peculiarities, and with all the appliances necessary to make the experiment final and conclusive.

Some twenty years ago an experiment was made in Vermont, which showed that with sheep the consumption of food was very nearly related to the live weight of the carcass, and that, disregarding the quality of wool that was the most profitable sheep which produced the greatest percentage of the wool to the live weight of the carcass. Immediately the best breeders bred by that standard, taking into consideration quality as well, and the result, in less than fifteen years, was that Vermont produced the best wool sheep in the world. Certain commercial considerations came in to influence the views of breeders to the effect of sacrificing the primary object to producing the best sheep for crossing upon mongrel stocks. Nevertheless this is an example of the value of a single ascertained fact. It is perhaps needless to give other illustrations of what might be done in elucidating agricultural problems. To do this it becomes necessary for the government to establish not agricultural colleges, but experimental farms. The scheme which seems to promise the most is something like the following:

1st. One central, national, experimental farm, officered with its chemist, botanist, etc., etc.

2d. Auxiliary experimental farms in different agricultural areas.

The central institution should govern the auxiliary. While the central might be able to determine all general questions, it should be the province of the auxiliary institutions to repeat experiments already made and the central farm in reference to their several agricultural regions. Thus, the central might see fit to experiment with a new kind of wheat. The auxiliary farms should repeat the experiments in their several localities; for that which might be a good kind of wheat for Georgia might not be a good kind for Maine, etc., thus transforming the abstract results of the central experiments to practical results in geographical areas. To the central should belong the higher and more strictly scholastic and scientific phases of a question—to the auxilliary, the practical.

It may well be questioned if the mere distribution of seeds is productive of all the good designed. A variety of oats may come well commended to the Agricultural Bureau, and having been tested they may be distributed over the country. Each person receiving a package must make the experiment for himself ere he knows the value of the variety for him. It may well be questioned if, in the experience of the Commissioner of Agriculture, he attaches much importance to the sparse reports he gets from this source, nor can it be questioned that experiments made at various points in the country under his direction according to prescribed formulae, by trained experimentists with ample means for conducting the experiments carefully would solve the question better.

Such an institution, in consultation with a board composed of one representative from every State and Territory, would, by reason of the varied agricultural interests represented, have brought to its attention from time to time not only the questions common to all farmers but the local problems pertaining to varied climates and soils and regions.

Such an institution would find its function not only in determining basic facts and principles, but of varieties of seeds and plants, machines and processes, in the whole matter of acclimatisation and new agricultural industries. As an example of the latter, fish culture, who has as yet determined its value as an economic art—the conditions for profitable fish culture; the areas and conditions in which its several branches may be pursued; the relations of growth of food and the various other questions which, but for some governmental aid, must be left to the chance individual enterprise.

It may be said that farmers now do not avail themselves of what is already known.—Granting that such an objection is worthy of consideration it may be answered that the trouble is rather that the farmer is not convinced always of the truth and practicability of what is published; that any critical reader will see that much which is paraded as knowledge is only opinion, that much worthy of consideration is not translated into formulae easily understood or put into practice, that much needs the warrant of authentic verification. It may well be admitted that if a manufacturer of cotton learns to make his drillings one cent a yard cheaper than his neighbors, his neighbors learn his art or have to quit the business. They always learn it. Farmers are as quick to learn as their neighbors, provided that the lesson is proven and demonstrated. Competition tells in time in farming as in other industries, and competition is the sharpest educator the world has yet known.

GOOD MEN MAKE GOOD HORSES.

A horse is never vicious or intractable without a direct cause. If a horse is restive or timorous, you may be sure that these faults arise from defects in his education. He has been treated either awkwardly or brutally. Commence the education of a horse at his birth; accustom him to the presence, voice and sight of man; speak and act gently; caress him, and do not startle him. All chastisement or cruelty confuses the animal and makes him wild. They are good men who make good horses.

DESTROYING WORMS IN POTS.—The worms in the pots may be destroyed by stopping up the holes in the pots with corks, and watering with lime water until it stands on the surface. The lime water may remain for an hour: then, on removing the cork it will pass off. The lime water may be made by pouring thirty gallons over ten pounds of fresh lime. Stir well up and allow the whole to stand two or three days; then employ the clear liquor.—*Tilton's Journal of Horticulture.*

Stock Department.

FATTENING ANIMALS.

Numerous experiments have been made on geese, ducks, pigs, bees, &c., which go to prove that these animals accumulate much more fat than can be accounted for by the quantity present in the food. M. Flourens had the bears in the Jarden des Plantes fed exclusively on bread, and they became excessively fat. Bees confined to a diet of purified sugar continue to produce wax, which strictly belongs to the group of fats. But, whatever its source, the excessive use of nonnitrogenous food, conjoined with inactivity, frequently leads to the deposit of an inordinate amount of oleaginous matter. This fact is illustrated by numerous instances both among the lower animals and among men.—At Strasbourg the geese are fattened by shutting them up in darkened coops within a heated room, and stuffing them constantly with food. The high temperature lessens the escape of the heat, and thus favors the process. Here all the conditions for insuring obesity are resorted to, viz.: external heat, obscurity, inactivity, and the cramming of the animals with fattening food. A still greater refinement for pandering to the appetite is resorted to by the Italians, who relish the fat of the ortolan. To procure this in perfection the natural habits of the bird were watched, and, it having been found that it only takes food at the rising of the sun, they fatten the birds by producing an artificial sunrise. To effect this, the ortolans are placed in a dark, warm chamber which has but one aparture in the wall. Food being scattered over the floor, a lantern is placed at a certain hour in the opening, when the birds, misled by the dim light, at once commence feeding. The meal finished, the lantern is withdrawn and more food scattered about, when the ortolans sleep. Two or three hours having elapsed, and digestion being completed, the lantern is again made to throw its light into the apartment. The rising sun recalls the birds to the habit of again feeding, and they again sleep with returning darkness. This process is repeated several times in the twenty-four hours, and in a very short time the ortolan becomes literally a ball of fat, which, strung on a wick, is said to make an excellent lamp.—*The Popular Science Monthly.*

REGULATIONS AS TO SHOW CATTLE.

In the classes of thoroughbred cattle, only those of approved pedigrees will be admitted; but all animals whose pedigrees are approved, and that are shown to be thoroughbred and of no pedigree, will be considered equal as to pedigree, one strain of pure blood having no preference over another in the prize rings.

In order to discourage the over feeding of breeding animals for exhibition (a practice which not only causes useless expense and loss to the owners, but sometimes deters those breeders from exhibiting who wisely refuse to incur the risk of putting their animals in what is called a "show condition"), the Judges are instructed to make allowance, in all cases, for difference in condition, and are cautioned against being deceived thereby. And whenever there shall seem to the judges to be reason to doubt whether any animal rising an award is actually in breeding condition, they shall state the doubt explicitly in connection with the award. In every such case, the prize shall be held in suspense, and shall pass to the animal next in order on the prize list, whose prize shall in like manner pass to the next and so on down the list, unless proof be furnished to the Executive Committee, that the animal, if a bull, has got cows with calves within two months, or if a cow or heifer over two years old, has produced a living calf within nine months, after the Fair; and in all classes to which this rule applies, the judges, besides awarding the prizes, shall, if there be any other animal of sufficient merit for a prize, designate one animal as the reserve number to succeed to the place made vacant on the prize list in case any of the prize animals shall be disqualified as above provided.

The Fat Cattle must be weighed, and in general those are to be judged best which have the greatest weight with the least surface and offal.—*N. Y. State Agricultural Society.*

Horticulture.

TRANSPLANTING.

I was taught to set plants just after rain, and many gardeners recommend this plan, but I have learned better. I take cabbage, tomatoes, or anything that is transplanted, having the ground fitted loose or mellow. I take my plants in a basket, and have along a small pail with water in it. I take a plant in my left hand, put the plant in the water. On taking the plant from the water, I give the hand a quick turn throwing the roots of the plants up to prevent them sticking together, and immediately with the right hand sprinkle dry earth over the roots, then set them in the ground to the seed leaves. In this way the ground remains loose about the plant, and the young roots take hold of the soil and need no shading. In setting after a rain, many persons press the earth so tight about the roots that it always remains hard, and before you close to the roots it cannot be loosened by the hoe. I set three thousand plants in this way last season, and some on the warmest days we had in May, without losing any. During wet weather, this month, raspberry suckers may be taken up and transplanted. We make the rows five feet apart, and set out four or five young suckers in each hill, making the hills three feet apart in the rows.—Press the earth firmly round the plants, and if the work is done in moist weather, and as much earth as possible is left round the roots, or, in other words, if the suckers are taken up, as gardeners say, "with a ball," they can be transplanted as easily as cabbage. You save a year's time by this plan. If the ground is rich, and you mulch the young plants, they will bear a small crop the next season.

AN IMPORTANT FACT IN GRAPE CULTURE.—We would mention a fact which has come within our observation and experience, which, if generally true, is of some importance. It is this: That the fruit bud from the base of the last year's cane throws out large and better developed grapes than either the first or second. The grapes from these buds seem also better flavored, and generally superior to those on the first and second. In accordance with this hint we have adopted the plan of cutting the cane at such length as to leave the third bud, generally, and sometimes the fourth, when a good strong one, and then rubbing off the first and second buds, and leaving the third and fourth for fruit. The number of fruit buds left on the vine. If the vines are strong and vigorous at three years, from two to three bunches of grapes may be allowed to mature on each without injury.—*Rural Pacific Press.*

CUTTING OFF THE LEAVES OF STRAWBERRIES.—After strawberries have done fruiting, many cultivators have the practice of cutting off the entire leaves, fruit stalks and old top of the plant. It is then covered with a light mulch of hay or grass, and remains undisturbed for a few weeks or months. Then a new top and crown form, new dark fresh leaves appear, and the plant continues a healthy and vigorous growth for years afterwards. To our certain knowledge this practice has been followed in over a dozen beds for periods of as many as eight years, and with the best possible results. Be careful, in cutting off the tops, not to cut off the new fresh top and leaves just forming. The idea and advantage of the practice is to relieve the plant of old fruit stalks and half dead leaves. The roots, remaining strong and active, can now support a new top, which will keep the fruit bearing capacities of the plant up to its highest condition.

RURAL ARCHITECTURE.

A Thesis prepared for and delivered at the Graduation Exercises of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, on the 17th of July.

BY WILLIAM C. WHITNEY.

The bird builds its nest to-day in the same manner and of the same materials that it has for the last fifty or more centuries; the bee gathers its wax, and constructs its hexagonal cells with the same unerring precision that it did thousands of years ago. Throughout the animal kingdom, we see each individual, the insect as well as the brute, guided by that blind instinct which was the same in the beginning as it is now. But man, intelligent, civilized man, raised by his superior intellectual faculties into a higher plane of existence, requires a more refined degree of comfort for his social happiness, than the brute or the savage. He is eminently a social being, and as the pattern and foundation of all society is the family, how then can this element of his nature be cultivated? how can society, which has such an influence on the progress of humanity

The Ploughman.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, AUG. 17, 1872.

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FAVORABLE PROSPECTS FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FAIR.

By speech to the Associated Press from Treasurer Riddle.

MANCHESTER N. H., Aug. 12.—The officers of the New England Agricultural Society are receiving information from all quarters which warrants the conclusion that the exhibition of horses, cattle, sheep, and all kinds of produce, at the great fair at Lowell, Mass., which will open September third, will be the finest and most extensive which has ever been given by the Society. The pasturage and crops of this year in all portions of New England are so much better than those of the past few years, when severe droughts prevailed, that the show of stock and agricultural products at the fair cannot fail of being extremely attractive. The grounds, buildings, pens, etc., are nearly completed. The premium list is the largest which was ever offered by the Association. The purses, which are offered for the best trotting horses in the eleven classes, amount in all to $3250. On account of the large number of entries which will probably be made, the executive officers have raised the purse for horses which have never beaten 2.37, from $900 to $500. They have withdrawn the purse of $100 for pacing horses, and have offered instead a purse of $1000 for the best trotting horses which have never beaten 2.32. The entries for the purses will positively close at the Treasurer's office in this city August 26.

RAILROAD ARRANGEMENTS

FOR THE

NEW ENGLAND FAIR AT LOWELL.

Arrangements have been made with the following Railroads in New England to transport stock and articles free of expense to the Exhibitors, to and from the New England Fair, to be held in the city of Lowell, September 3d, 4th, 5th and 6th, 1872.

Owners to assume all risk of loss or damage.

Prepayment of freight may be required; but upon its return to the station where loaded the money will be refunded.

Suitable notice should be given to station agents that cars may be in readiness.

Boston, Lowell & Nashua Railroad and Branches—Boston & Maine—Eastern Railroad from Boston to Portland—Great Falls & Conway—Fitchburg—Boston, Hartford & Erie—Providence & Worcester—Nashua & Worcester—Boston, Clinton & Fitchburg—Cheshire—Vermont & Massachusetts—Troy & Greenfield—Concord Railroad & Branches—Northern Railroad & Branches—Boston, Concord & Montreal—White Mountains—Concord & Passumpsic and Massawippi—Vermont Central—Vermont & Canada—Rutland—Vermont Valley—Sullivan—New London—Northern Railroad and Boston & Albany.

(Old Colony & Newport Railroad will carry free one way.)

GEORGE W. RIDDLE,
Treasurer, N. E. Agricultural Society.
Manchester, Aug. 7, 1872.

THE EDUCATIONAL CONVENTION.

The proceedings of the National Educational Convention which was held in this city last week, occupied a large share of the public attention, and were very fully reported in the daily press, as they deserved to be. It brought together from all parts of the country the most distinguished educators, the men and women who have made the subject the study of their lives, and the papers read and the discussions upon the stated subjects formed a body of learning, of theory and practice in all the details of popular education which should be preserved. They represented the results of years of study and observation, and embraced the whole range of educational science from the primary school system up.

The educational system of our country is very largely carried on in its practical application by women. The Association is one of the few in which the ladies have and perform a large share of the work at its annual meetings, and it was a matter of observation that the essays of the lady members were among the most valuable and instructive. Although our institutions of education are mostly managed by men, a great part of the work is done by the women, and they ought to be the most capable of imparting information on hundreds of topics, which they on this occasion showed themselves abundantly able to do. Many of the sectional meetings devoted to careful discussions and close interchange of thought and methods were conducted by ladies, who in many cases exhibited marked ability.

The large number of active and earnest workers in this all important cause who were assembled on this occasion, embraced probably as much learning, intelligence and enthusiasm withal, as were ever collected in any similar body in the country. Organization and combined effort were never more needed nor more efficient of good than in a cause which the fathers of Massachusetts, for the first time in the history of the world, declared to be of such importance that it should be provided for and sustained at the public expense. The system thus had its origin in our State and has now extended all over the country.

Frequent allusion was made in the proceedings of the convention, to the most eminent educator the country ever produced, also a native of Massachusetts, Horace Mann, whose name will always be cherished as the pioneer o the greatest steps in the progress of the cause which our people have always had so much at heart.

CHEAP TRANSPORTATION.—By the new Postal law which went into operation on the 1st of July, packages of dry goods, hardware, drugs (except liquid drugs) and other merchandise, not exceeding twelve ounces in weight, can be mailed to any part of the United States, at a charge of two cents for each two ounces or fraction of two ounces.—Much time and money will be saved by this arrangement. For instance, a pair of boots, if neither boot weighs more than the specified twelve ounces, may be wrapped up in two separate parcels and sent across the continent for twenty-four cents; whereas the transportation of goods of this description by express would cost almost more money than they are worth.

STEAMER BRISTOL SUNK.

Much excitement was caused in the city Saturday morning by the report that the steamer Bristol of the Sound Line between Fall River and New York, had sunk early in the morning in Narragansett Bay, with eight hundred passengers and a large amount of freight on board. She left New York on Friday evening, and the weather being foggy, the run to Newport was quite a hazardous one. About four o'clock Saturday morning, when near the breakwater in Newport harbor, the steamer struck the British bark B. Rogers, from Dublin, which was lying at anchor. The steamer was going at the rate of about ten miles an hour, and the bark was heavily laden with Russia iron, and firm in the water, so that the shock was like striking upon a solid rock. As soon as the bark was discovered, the steamer was backed hard, but such was her momentum, that she struck the bark amidships, cutting into her about six feet. She had sixteen men on board, all of whom were fortunately saved, although her cargo, valued at about $75,000, went to the bottom. The crew were all in their berths below, and had just time to escape and get on deck with their lives and little or no clothing on their persons. The men were immediately taken on board the Bristol and kindly cared for. The steamer hung to the bark about fifteen minutes, and until the crew of the latter were got on board, and then backed out, opening the gap in the side of the bark and letting her sink instantly. The shock to the steamer was quite slight. She had eight hundred passengers on board, none of whom appeared to feel any serious alarm, except some ladies who fainted. The steamer immediately proceeded to land her passengers and freight at Newport, and after doing so, continued on her course to Fall River.

Everything was proceeding as usual when suddenly, nearly off Prudence Light, it was discovered that the vessel was sinking rapidly forward. When this fact became generally known there was considerable excitement and confusion at first, and one lady fainted. However, fears were soon allayed and the bow of the steamer was immediately turned toward the shore with the purpose of beaching the vessel. Some of the passengers in the lower cabin knew nothing of the sudden turn in affairs until the water came rushing into their berths from the port holes. She was beached on Coal Mine Flats, six or seven miles above Newport. The captain and officers did everything to allay fear, relieve the passengers and secure their safety. Three boats were at once lowered, and the work of landing those on board commenced. The shore was from three hundred to four hundred feet distant. As fast as landed they walked to the railroad station at the mines near by. About a hundred persons thus took passage on the eight o'clock train from Newport for Boston. On receipt of the news of the disaster in Fall River about eight o'clock, the steamer Canonicus was despatched to the assistance of the Bristol and brought up the remainder of the passengers and baggage.

The damage to the Bristol, other than from water, is not supposed to be very serious, and she was raised and towed to New York in a few days. The steamers Bristol and Providence were built in New York expressly for the rout in 1867, have all the modern improvements and latest conveniences, and are lighted by gas and heated by steam. The elegant equipment of this line has made it one of the most popular to New York city. As the steamers are facsimiles of each other, it is sufficient to say that they are of three thousand tons burthen, and cost upwards of $1,000,000 each. Their length is three hundred and seventy-three feet, width of hull forty-eight feet, and depth sixteen feet. They are fitted with 238 staterooms and 90 berths, and will easily accommodate 800 passengers.

Parliament Prorogued.—The session of the British Parliament, which has lasted almost continuously from February, was ended last Saturday by royal proclamation. The matter of most interest to us which has been discussed during the session, was the Alabama Claims Arbitration, and it is remarkable that in a country where the whole subject of treaties with foreign powers is exclusively within the royal prerogative, the speeches in Parliament and the temper of that body were so influential in shaping the policy of the government, in marked contrast with the slight demonstration made in our Congress in reference to it. It was only by the "spontaneous declaration of the Arbitrators" to use the language of the Queen's speech, that the diplomacy of the two countries were extricated from a complication and muddle which for a time threatened to nullify the labors of years in bringing the vexed questions to a settlement.

The speech of the Queen alludes in language of satisfaction to the results thus far attained. The decision of the arbitrators in rejecting the claims for indirect damages, is announced to be entirely consistent with the views announced at the opening of the session. All the arrangements contemplated by the treaty are declared to be now in progress, and she reflects with satisfaction that there is now no longer any impediment to perfect concord between the two nations. Other portions of the speech from the Throne refer to the relations with France, and the expected termination of the commercial treaty of 1868 with that nation; to the steps taken to deal more effectually with the slave trade on the east coast of Africa; to the acts for the improvement of the army; the vote by ballot; the purity of elections; to the tranquility and growing prosperity of Ireland, and to various other subjects of internal polity and legislation.

Boston University.— The managers of the Boston University, an institution which has been recently founded under the auspices of the Methodist denomination, have lately organized a department of law, in which it is proposed to give a thorough course of instruction in the principles and practice of the legal profession in all its branches. The city presents peculiar advantages for acquiring a thorough legal education. Its many converging railways render it very accessible for students residing or prosecuting their studies in adjoining towns. Its law libraries and the public library of the city contain all the necessary aids of books, and its law offices enable the student to acquire a knowledge of the practice while studying the theoretical principles. The proximity and convenience of access to the courts also afford an additional advantage in the practical training so important in this profession.

There is no reason why the school thus instituted should not become one of the best in the country for the resort of students. The various departments of instruction are assigned to professional gentlemen of eminence, among whom are those who stand highest in the city and vicinity, and whose names and reputations are sufficient to guarantee the efficiency and thoroughness of the instruction given. The full course of instruction embraces three years, and the fees and incidental expenses are as moderate as in any institution of the kind. There is no profession which requires more careful and persevering study for its successful pursuit than the law, and the Boston Law School enters upon its career under the most favorable auspices.

☞ They have discovered a new insect in the south which is called the "fall worm," though it is a little too early for its appearance. What the office of this particular worm is to be, has not yet been decided. They may adjudge it to the cotton, rice, wheat or corn, as the low prices anticipating a promising heavy crop may seem to be the most profitable.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS IN JAPAN.

At one of the sessions of the National Educational Convention in this city last week, Mr. Mori, the Japanese Minister at Washington, being present and invited to speak, gave an account, more interesting as coming from a distinguished native, of the new impulse given to the Japanese government and nation in the cause of intellectual and material progress, which has been aroused in that interesting country, by their recent intercourse with foreign countries. This nation seems to be more ambitious and willing than any other of the nations of Asia to adopt the improvements of modern civilization. Since the settlement of California, and more especially since the completion of the Pacific Railroad, a new spirit of national progress has been visible in the foreign and internal relations of the government and people. They are eager to investigate and to acquire information on all subjects of material interest, and the new relations which are springing up and strengthening between them and our own country promise the best results. The following is an abstract of Mr. Mori's remarks at the convention.

He said that four years ago, when the revolution took place in Japan, the new government struggled hard to establish a better system of education. The Government had decided to adopt all improvements in this direction possible. About a dozen foreigners, mostly from America, had been imported to serve as teachers. All the struggles they have had have been of little use to them, because of their insufficient knowledge of their language. The Japanese then began to send their youth abroad to learn foreign languages and also the arts and sciences. Some of these had returned and were impressing upon the Government the positive necessity of education at home, and this had had a good effect. Still the importance of this had not been fully realized, and at last it became necessary to send their highest officers abroad that they might see for themselves. It had been very hard for the Government to get along at all without the Prime Minister, Iwakura, who had recently been here; but they would let the governmental work go, and do nothing almost rather than miss this experience. It was intended to introduce the English language as much as possible into Japan, that our education might come with it. They had now railroads and the like, "but still," they said, "education is the first." The Mayor of Yeddo had recently arrived here and had told him that he should leave other things to take a second place in his city of a million inhabitants till their education was assured. They had started many schools already in Japan, and he might say the whole nation had become alive to their value. But on account of a lack of teachers this need could not be supplied at once. Of the many teachers who had come to Japan he said, "It is very painful indeed to say they don't make a good impression upon the learners." He hoped all educators in this country who had a definite plan for educating Japan would communicate it to him or at the home Government, for he wanted to start right. He expressed his gratitude to those who had taken an interest in the subject, more than he had expected. He thanked the Association for their attention.

The Accident to the Bristol.—The disaster to the Sound steamer Bristol last Saturday morning was one which, if it had happened at many other points on the route, would have resulted in a terrible loss of life. That it resulted as it did may well be considered one of the most narrow escapes on record. The accounts of the speed of the boat when she struck the British bark are most contradictory, some statements making it four miles an hour and others placing it as high as sixteen, which seems scarcely probable, as that is the highest rate of speed of which the boat is capable. The wonder is that she did not fill and sink immediately. It is difficult to believe that the greatest care and skill was used in the navigation of the steamer as she was nearing a place so much frequented with shipping as Newport is. A proper regard for the safety of the hundreds of passengers should have advised a landing at Newport and when the captain left the wharf at that place he took an awful responsibility both in reference to the lives of the passengers and to the valuable property committed to his charge. It is stated that if the dangerous condition of the boat had been discovered but a few minutes later, it would not have been possible to beach the boat and land the passengers in safety in any other part of the bay.

Cloud Bursts.—A "cloud burst" occurred on the line of the Kansas Pacific Railroad the other day, destroying a bridge, in consequence of which a train of cars were wrecked and a number of lives lost. The Gold Hill (Nevada) *News* thus describes this peculiar phenomenon of the west:

"Cloud bursts occur in the summer season during heavy thunder storms, and are simply rain showers of sudden and extraordinary violence. Some over-laden cloud sailing over a mountainous locality merely turns its watery contents loose, and it comes streaming down, flooding the hillsides, from whence the water flows in sheets into the ravines. So sudden is the flood, that where not a drop or water has been seen for weeks or months, a large turbulent, overwhelming torrent comes pouring down, carrying away trees, rocks and everything else before it, washing away railroads, bridges, toll roads, houses; in fact everything in its way. One of these floods thus pouring down a steep, dry mountain canon, frequently shows an advancing front of logs, bushes, huge bowlders and similar debris, twelve or fifteen feet high. Woe to any unlucky teamster who happens to be passing with his loaded wagon along the bed of the canon. Those who understand matters are able to guard against the impending calamity by getting their wagons out of the ravine and upon the hillside as far as possible; or, if they have no time for that, they will unhitch their animals and give them a chance to escape. Instances are known where one of these cloud bursts has occurred on some broad slope, where having no ravine to carry off the water, it has ploughed and torn a channel for itself of great depth and extent."

AN EFFECTUAL REMEDY.—A gen'leman resident of a certain town in the old Colony thinks he has discovered the most effectual remedy for ridding fowl of lice that has yet been tried. A few days since quite late in the afternoon he concluded to smoke his coops, and at the same time burn up all the refuse straw, etc., which were in them. After doing this, he at once substituted clean new straw and shortly after retired to rest. The next morning he was surprised to find that the lice had all left as well as his coops, yard, and contents, nothing remaining but a heap of ashes. We presume his remedy may be effectual, but should call it rather expensive

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The executive officers of the New Hampshire Agricultural Society have decided to hold the annual State Fair this year at Dover, commencing on the 1st of October next, and to continue four days. The premium list will be issued immediately. The premiums and gratuities will amount to about $13,000. The details of the arrangements are in the hands of some of the most enterprising and influential citizens of Dover, and the prospect is that the fair will be one of the best which has been held in the State.

☞ The forty-first annual exhibition of the American Institute opens in New York, Sept. 4. The twenty-fifth exhibition of the Maryland Institute opens at Baltimore Oct. 1. The Cincinnati Industrial Exposition opens Sept. 4, and continues until Oct. 5. The Louisville Industrial Exposition opens Sept. 3, and closes Oct. 8.

☞ The annual fair of the Vermont State Agricultural Society and Wool Growers' Association will be held on the grounds of the Caledonia County Agricultural Society at St. Johnsbury on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, September 10, 11, 12 and 13. Nearly $5000 will be offered in premiums.

KANSAS.—The Kansas State Board of Agriculture holds its Eighth Annual Exhibition at Topeka Sept. 19th and 20th. Preparations are making by the Board for one of the largest industrial exhibitions ever held in the west. The Fair Grounds are most spacious and well appointed, and the farmers of the State are enthusiastic over the prospect.

FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.

TERRIBLE FIRE AT NIJI-NOVGOROD.

London, Aug. 7.—A despatch from St Petersburg, just received in this city, states that a terrible conflagration has broken out in the city of Niji-Novgorod, where the great annual fair is now in progress. This fair, which is the largest held in any city in the world, commenced on the 1st of July, and is held on a triangular space on the right bank of the river Volga. Immense quantities of goods and merchandize of every description, have been already destroyed by the fire, and it is feared that the entire fair ground may be swept clear of its buildings before the flames can be arrested. The authorities of the city are exerting themselves to the utmost to stop further progress of conflagration, but with what measure of success cannot yet be learned.

PRESIDENT THIERS ON THE COAL MINERS' STRIKE AT CALAIS.

Paris, Aug. 7.—President Thiers, in commending the action of the Prefect of Calais, in suppressing the coal miners' strike, says that there are 100,000 men at Versailles, and the means of repression are not wanting. The Republic cannot suffer disorder, especially that instigated by foreign emissaries. They must be at once subdued. Local papers state that an agent from Chicago is among the instigators of the strike, his supposed object being to induce the emigration of miners to the United States. Another source states that the Internationals of Belgium are organizers of the strike. The troops are used to protect the miners desiring to work, and to prevent the assembling of mobs.

DINNER TO STANLEY, THE EXPLORER.

London, Aug. 7.—Mr. Nutter, editor of the Anglo-American, entertained Mr. Stanley, the Herald correspondent, at a dinner given at the Junior United Service Club. Mr. Moran, Secretary of the American Legation, and many representatives of the press, here and in America, were present. Pleasant speeches were made, and Mr. Stanley was warmly congratulated on his perseverance and success.

THE GENEVA ARBITRATION.

Geneva, Aug. 8.—The Alabama Claims Arbitration Tribunal met again at half-past 12, and after a session of two and a half hours, adjourned to Wednesday next. Several of the arbitrators and counsel are suffering from indisposition, caused by excessive toil and the disagreeable weather. The object of the Court, in adjourning for so long a period, is to give the members sufficient time for especial study of a number of points involved in the cases which have come before them. The President of the Conference confidently hopes that the labors of the Tribunal will be brought to a satisfactory conclusion by the 15th of September.

Geneva, Aug. 9.—William M. Evarts goes to Paris to-day, but will return before the re-assembling of the Court of Arbitration next Wednesday. Caleb Cushing and Mr. Waite will visit Chamounix during the adjournment of the Court. It is supposed that the American representatives have completed their case, and that the English agent and counsel are employing themselves during the recess in preparing their reply thereto. The Arbitrators, counsel and other gentlemen connected with the Tribunal, dined together at Hotel des Bergers to-day. Covers were laid for forty guests. J. Bancroft Davis was not present. The affair was entirely informal.

THE DISPOSAL OF THE COLISEUM.—Mr. Gilmore has obtained the Coliseum from the Executive Committee of the Jubilee for $30,000 in money, the committee liberally allowing him the difference between its actual value and the above named sum. Mr. Gilmore proposes to give a grand concert in the building for which 50,000 tickets will be issued at three dollars a ticket. A ball will be given, and the tickets will be good for admission to either the ball or the concert. Each ticket will give the holder a chance to become the lucky owner of the building, which will be assigned by lot. The affair will take place about the 10th of October, and Mr. Gilmore is in constant receipt of letters and telegrams from choral societies and prominent artists offering their assistance. The concert and ball will be on a grand scale.

MISSOURI.—The Twelfth Fair of the St. Louis Agricultural and Mechanical Association commences October 3d and continues until the 12th. The most extensive arrangements are on foot to place this ahead of all previous fairs held by this flourishing association. The schedule of premiums amount to forty thousand dollars, of which the St. Louis merchants offer ten thousand dollars in premiums on cotton alone. Competition in all classes is invited from the whole Union.

THE JAPANESE OFFICIALS VISIT HON. MARSHALL P. WILDER.—On Thursday, of last week, His Excellency M. Mori, Japanese Minister Resident at Washington, His Honor M. Yuri, Mayor of Yeddo, just arrived from Japan on a tour of observation, and M. Iunami, his associate companion, made a visit to the elegant residence and grounds of Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, Ward 16, where they were received by Mr. Wilder and his friends of the immediate neighborhood. The object of their visit was to examine the ornamental and fruit trees of this country, as well as notice the many beautiful and useful Chinese plants, especially the camelias, azaleas, peonias, magnolias, and other productions of Oriental lands with which Mr. Wilder's collection abound. The Japanese gentlemen expressed great surprise at the many plants and trees from their country, but especially at one orchard of pears, consisting of eight hundred or more varieties. The Mayor of Yeddo was aware of our excellence in apple culture, and had introduced into his own country several varieties of our American apples, but had no conception of the extent of fruit culture in America, and expressed his intention to pursue his observations in this line and to send home our best fruits.

THE PRESIDENT'S JOURNEY.—President Grant for the last week or two has been on a trip in the State of New York, and has had receptions in the principal cities in the interior of the State. A sail on the St. Lawrence through the Thousand Isles was in the programme. The journey has been made in a quiet informal manner. The journies of the President have been so frequent that they do not excite so much public attention as a presidential progress formerly did.

☞ A novel "Silver Wedding" is in preparation at Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., (H. W. Beecher's,) to take place Oct. 8th to 11th. The old members and friends who wish for information and invitations, should send their names to the "Clerk of the Church."

☞ The report of the Committee of the United States Senate, appointed to inquire into the condition of affairs in the late insurrectionary States, which was submitted in the month of February, makes a volume of 650 pp, and contains a statement of the evidence in detail taken before the committee.

ANIMALS' HOME.—The Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has opened, on Amory Street, near Hog Bridge, Boston Highlands, a Home for Homeless, Lost and Disabled Animals, where they will be provided with good homes, restored to their owners, or mercifully killed. Lost dogs will be retained a week or longer according to circumstances. The Police of Boston will co-operate with the Society in collecting these animals, and will receive them at the Station Houses, where they will be sent for every morning. Parties having domestic animals, which they desire to have mercifully killed, may send them to the Home. Persons claiming ownership of dogs, will be required to prove that they are licensed. Further information may be obtained at the office of the Society, 46 Washington Street.

☞ Attention is called to the business card and advertisement of Messrs. Horace L. Emery & Son, proprietors of the Albany Agricultural Works, Albany, N. Y. Their establishment is a very large one, and their price list and circular offers the best inducements to parties desirous of extending their business connections in the line of agricultural implements. The firm have a high and honorable standing, and their manufactures occupy a high position in the markets of the country.

☞ Some persons say, "We have tried sauce —we don't know whose [as if they were al alike, or all meritorious] at a restaurant, or at a certain hotel, and we didn't like it." Very likely not. There are a great many restaurants and hotels at which anything is bought and used that is called table sauce, and where some that is good is mixed with much that is poor. But if these people go to an eating house at which no cheap or common sauces are used, and inquire for the Halford Leicestershire Table Sauce, they will buy the same article for their homes.

READ AND RUN.

—The shoemakers' strike in Lynn has been resolutely matched by the co-operative union of the employers, and as both sides show determination there are fears of wide spread trouble. It is expected that savings to the amount of half a million dollars will be drawn out of the banks by the workmen.

—The auroras have been making superb displays of late, and we see that they are finally explained as phenomena of heat.

—Very nearly forty thousand watermelons were safely landed at this port one day last week, which is a fair two days' supply, and perhaps a trifle over.

—Amateur fishing along the coast, and especially close in shore, is found to yield as large a quantity of the favorite sculpin as ever.

—Rev. Dr. Todd, of Pittsfield, thought he would be photographed for the stereoscope while standing in his pulpit, and he found a local artist to do it.

—There are said to be seven thousand farms, each of three acres and less, in the country, from which their owners receive five hundred dollars apiece.

—It is in contemplation to fit out another Isthmus exploring expedition, under Commander Selfridge.

—Since the attempt to assassinate him, King Amadeus is more popular than he ever was in Spain.

—So far, the most expensive cottage erected at Mt. Desert cost seven thousand dollars.

—Mr. Gilmore is to have a grand concert and ball in the Coliseum in October, when each holder of a three dollar ticket has a chance to draw the whole concern.

—A fashion reporter reports in all seriousness that long ears are about to come in. A good many people will be sure to be in the fashion, then, for once in their lives.

—Spain thinks of tunneling the Straits of Gibraltar, which will undermine the British power in that locality most effectually.

—Stanley had been serving up some most romantic incidents in the columns of the New York *Herald*, in the recital of his efforts to discover the whereabouts of Livingstone.

—The heat has been the equal in England to anything we have had here. The members of the British Parliament found it next to impossible to proceed with legislative business.

—Paran Stevens's will is published, and divides a couple of million of dollars.

—The census of Hingham, and in fact of various other country towns in Massachusetts shows that for about every second house there is owned one horse.

—That "cool corner" which has been engineered by a ring whose head is in Montreal, involves the locking up of a million and a quarter of dollars and towards a hundred thousand barrels of pork.

—At one of the Long Branch hotels, the married ladies have organized in a club for breaking up poker playing and compelling their husbands to be in their rooms by eleven o'clock.

—The advanced price of coal in England has also put up the fares on the railroads for passengers and freights.

—In her proroguing speech to parliament, the Queen congratulates that body on the settlement of the dispute over the indirect claims, and the prospect of a peaceful termination of the whole business.

—Chief Justice Chase threatens a New York daily with a libel suit, for persistently saying that his health is very precarious, that he can never recover sufficiently for the proper performance of his duties, and that he is past the period of his usefulness. Such statements reiterated continually, ought to be actionable.

—They are crying up the ravages of the caterpillar in southern Georgia and Florida on the cotton, yet the statement goes parallel with it that the cotton crop will turn out four million bales.

—One would suppose that such extreme heat as has ruled would tend to suppress ball playing, but base ball stock is quoted at as high a premium as ever.

—The yacht squadrons in all our surrounding waters are flying like birds everywhere, and the yachtsmen are in and upon their element.

—Never in its whole history were the New England railroads so profitably operated as at the present time, and never were they required to transport an amount of passenger and freighting business.

—This is known at the summer watering places as "the height of the season." The fall influences will shortly begin to make themselves felt.

—It is matter of remark that the tendency of summer visitors at the coast and the springs is to cottage rather than hotel life. The latter is believed by competent judges to have about reached its culminating point, and will from this time begin to wane.

—Those who have experienced the sweltering heats of summer declare that, after all, there is nothing like an east wind, such as what we get on our coast.

—An immense quantity of fruit is to be distilled this year, and consumed in that way.

—A company has been organized in Maryland legislature to construct a ship canal from Chesapeake Bay to the Delaware River. This will greatly shorten transportation from Baltimore to the North and East.

—Suicides are becoming alarmingly frequent. Dead bodies are found by the dozen all about the New York piers and docks.

—The proposed filling of the South Boston Flats is a measure which is to give Boston such a start in solid commercial prosperity as she has never had since the establishment of her railway system.

—The bewildering multiplication of Colonels has called out some playfully sarcastic comments from the Philadelphia *Post*. It is a plethora that has long been a subject of reflection.

—The Mikado of Japan himself is coming over to see our country next, after having first made the tour of Europe.

—The Plantamour comet—so called—was to have struck us all of a heap on the 12th, but here we all are, in spite of Plantamour and the rest of the astronomical prophets.

—Enough money will be raised at once in Boston to carry out that laudable scheme of giving excursions to the children.

—A couple at Long Branch were married after a courtship of less than twenty-four hours.

—The excitement in San Francisco over the reported discovery of diamonds and rubies in fabulous quantities on the borders of Colorado and New Mexico, is subsiding into more sensible views of the subject.

—A new definition for old maid is, a woman that has been made a long time.

—Japanese Tommy did not receive any of his old attentions while in New York this time, and departed full of reflections on the versatility of republican sentiments.

—Profanity is reported as on the decrease in England, and it would be welcome news to hear that it is also in our own country, too.

—Some of the ladies are entirely opposed to surf-bathing in principle.

—Since 1800, the fund of sixty thousand dollars for establishing Exeter Academy has increased by careful management to a hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars, from nothing but the small margins which were each year saved from the income.

—Snipe and plover shooting is excellent at this particular time, especially for those who manage to bag some of both.

—The really stunning turnouts at Newport are elegant phaetons, driven by ladies. Four-in-hands have pretty much gone by.

—The late Jared Sparks, President of Harvard College was at first a journeyman carpenter in Connecticut. He thirsted for an education, and walked over one hundred miles to Exeter, N. H., where he was admitted as a free scholar. Eight hour men might think of such examples.

—A church in Rhode Island is said to have twelve commandments, with the Lord's Prayer, inserted mumbly by behind the pulpit.

—The final placing of the Jonathan Edwards monument at Stockbridge is exciting much sectarian feeling in that town.

—Burlington and St. Albans are rapidly growing in population and wealth.

—Central Vermont cuts double the hay this year that it did last year.

—Mr. Charles Allen, of North Charlestown, Vt., now seventy-eight years of age, has sheared three hundred sheep, on an average, every year for fifty-five years.

—Cottages by the sea are becoming the desideratum with all those who can afford them as parts of their domestic life and comfort.

—Canoe voyaging on our rivers is the next probable aquatic plan, and may supersede rowing.

—Too much stress is laid on self-made men; all of us are self-made, who amount to anything.

—The New York Times has successfully carried out its tenth Children's Excursion, taking twelve hundred children to a grove in Yonkers.

—Queen Victoria has made her annual trip to Balmoral, where she now is.

—The Chicago Times professes to have discovered the murderer of the Joyce children, who were assassinated in Bussey Woods in 1865.

—The President of Peru has been assassinated by a revolting rival, and he in turn was shot and his corpse burned by the mob.

—The announcement that five young ladies would make their appearance at Central Park last Saturday afternoon, and riding their horses man-fashion, drew a crowd of thousands to the Park entrance, but the whole thing was a "sell."

AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS.

We give below the time and place of holding such of the New England and State Fairs, so we have been able to ascertain. Will the Secretaries or friends of other Societies that hold exhibitions this fall, send us notices of the same?

State, Provincial, &c.

American Institute	New York	Sept. 4-Oct. 26
California	Sacramento	Sept. 19-28
Connecticut River Valley	Claremont, N. H.	Sept. 17-19
Georgia	Atlanta	Oct. 14-17
Illinois	Ottawa	Sept. 24-26
Indiana	Indianapolis	Sept. 30-Oct. 5
Iowa	Cedar Rapids	Sept. 9-13
Kansas	Topeka	Sept. 19-20
Kentucky	Lexington	Sept. 9-13
Maine	Bangor	Sept. 30-Oct. 4
Massachusetts Horticultural	Boston	Sept. 17-19
Montana		Sept. 23-27
Maryland	Baltimore	Oct. 1-5
Michigan	Kalamazoo	Sept. 16-21
Minnesota	St. Paul	Sept. 17-20
Mississippi	Jackson	Nov. 11-16
Nebraska	Lincoln	Sept. 5-6
New England	Lowell, Mass.	Sept. 3-6
New Hampshire	Dover	Sept. 1-3
New York	Elmira	Sept. 30-Oct. 4
Ohio	Mansfield	Sept. 2-6
Oregon	Salem	Sept. 30-Oct. 5
Pennsylvania	Erie	Sept. 17-20
St. Louis Association	St. Louis, Mo	Oct. 5-12
Vermont	Johnsbury	Sept. 10-13
Virginia	Richmond	Oct. 30-Nov. 1
Virginia and North Carolina	Norfolk, Va	Oct. 22-
Western Wool and Cotton Manufacturers	Chicago	Aug. 6-9
Wisconsin	Milwaukie	Sept. 25-27

County and Town.

MAINE

Aroostock	Houlton	Sept. 26-28
Franklin	Farmington	Oct. 1-3
Franklin North	Phillips	Oct. 3-4
Kennebec	Readfield	Sept. 24-26
North Penobscot	Lee	Oct. 2-3
Somerset West	North Anson	Sept. 25-26
Washington	Pembroke	Sept. 25-26

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Cheshire	Keene	Sept. 24-25
Coos and Essex	Lancaster	Sept. 17-18

VERMONT.

Addison	Middlebury	Sept. 4-6
Chittenden	Essex Junction	Sept. 10-13
Franklin	Sheldon	Sept. 18-20
Lamoille	Morrisville	Sept. 17-18
Orleans	Barton	Sept. 17-19
Proctorsville	Windsor Co	Sept. 25-26
Rutland	Rutland	Sept. 19-20
Wilmington	Wilmington	Oct. 2-
Windsor	Woodstock	Sept. 24-26
White River Valley	Bethel	Sept. 17-19

MASSACHUSETTS.

Essex	Gloucester	Sept. 24-25
Middlesex	Concord	Sept. 24-25
Middlesex North	Lowell	Sept. 3-4-5-6
Middlesex South	Framingham	Sept. 17-18
Worcester	Worcester	Sept. 19-20
Worcester West	Barre	Sept. 24-25
Worcester North	Fitchburg	Sept. 24-25
Worcester North east	Athol	Oct. 2-3
Worcester South	Sturbridge	Sept. 18-19
Worcester Southeast	Milford	Sept. 24-25
Hampshire, Franklin, and Hampden	Northampton	Oct. 3-4
Hampshire	Amherst	Sept. 24-25
Highland	Middfield	Sept. 17-18
Hampden	Palmer	Oct. 1-2
Hampden East	Palmer	Oct. 8-9
Union	Blandford	Sept. 25-26
Franklin	Greenfield	Sept. 26-27
Deerfield Valley	Charlemont	Sept. 24-25
Berkshire	Pittsfield	Sept. 24-25
Housatonic	Gt Barrington	Sept. 25-26-27
Housatonic Valley	North Adams	Sept. 17-18-19
Norfolk	Dedham	Sept. 24-25
Bristol	Taunton	Sept. 26-27-28
Bristol Central	Myrick's	Sept. 18-19-20
Plymouth	Bridgewater	Sept. 26-27-28
Barnstable	Hyannis	Sept. 24-25
Dukes	Edgartown	Sept. 25-26
Nantucket	Nantucket	Sept. 25-26

CARE OF MACHINES AND IMPLEMENTS.

Agricultural machines and implements coat a great deal of money, and they ought to be well taken care of, so as to preserve them in working order as long as possible. Threshing machines, reapers and mowers, seed drills, etc., generally suffer more damage from exposure to the weather when idle, than from the wear and tear occasioned by the work which they perform. There should be an implement house on every farm, large enough to contain all the machines and implements. There should also be a tool house for small tools. Every machine, implement, and tool, when not at work, should be in its proper place in the house or shed, painted and repaired, and safe from damage of every kind. When managed in this way, machines and implements will last at least twice as long as they would if left lying around loose, the iron work gathering rust from rain and dew, and the wood work rotting from the effect of wet and damp, or shrinking and cracking in the sun. A well stocked tool house is a good indication of the intelligence and orderly habits of its owner.

It is said that more than $5,000,000 is lost every year by the farmers of the United States by damage done to machines, implements, and tools, from exposure to the weather at times when they ought to be carefully housed. The farmer who complains of the high price of machines should make them last as long as possible by protecting them from the rays of the sun in summer, and from rain, frost, and snow at other seasons. It has been proved that even a grindstone becomes damaged by exposure to the weather; it is not to be wondered at, then, that machines and implements made of wood and iron should be easily damaged by rain, etc. A thrifty farmer understands that a dollar saved is just as good as a dollar earned or gained in any way.—*Western Rural World.*

ACCIDENT.

Harvest is close at hand, and many of our now robust farmers' sons, who bid fair to live lives of usefulness, will be, by acts of indiscretion before the close of harvest, rendered *invalids* for life. Sigh not for the ice creams or ice water of the city saloons, for if it could be had freely in the harvest field, half of the hands in the State would be totally disabled before the close of harvest. They are unfit for any one when the system is overheated. Pure, cool, well or spring water from 46 to 54 degrees of Fahrenheit, is the best temperature and the best beverage for man. And even water at 48 degrees should be taken with great caution by those exposed to the sun, and whose vital forces are much exhausted by severe labor. Health is too precious a boon to be carelessly thrown away in a moment of indiscretion. When very warm pour a little cool water on the hands and wrists before drinking, then take one swallow, and wait a few moments before a full draught is taken. But the laborer should have plenty of cool water at about 50 degrees, for if he be compelled to drink at 60 or 65 degrees he is apt to drink too much, overload his stomach, and render him unfit for work. We would say, then, as the friend of the farmer, take care of your health, by being careful of what you eat or drink during the heavy harvest just before you.—*State Register, Iowa.*

New Advertisements.

SEE THE NEW (22ND) EDITION OF OUR

Catalogue and Price Lists

For 1872, of the

ALBANY AGRICULTURAL WORKS

Containing carefully prepared descriptions of some of the leading Implements manufactured at these old established Works, among which will be found the

ENDLESS RAILWAY HORSE POWER,

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With its CHANGEABLE GEARING for the

Different Degrees of Force and Motion

Required for driving the

Various MACHINES and PROCESSES for the

PLANTATION, FARM AND WORKSHOP,

Without changing the Travel or Labor of the Horse.

—ALSO OF THE—

PORTABLE LEVER HORSE POWER,

(Same Patent,)

For Two to Eight Horses, with its

Double Pinions and Balanced Gearing,

Without Dead Points of Leverage, Friction and Wear.

—ALSO—

THRESHING MACHINES WITH CLEANERS,

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For all Grains, Rice, Grass Seeds, &c.

ALL SIZES, FOR TWO TO EIGHT-HORSE POWER.

Portable Cross-Cut, Circular and Drag Saws and Shingle Mills, Farm Feed Mills, Power and Hand Corn Shellers, Horse and Hand Power Corn and Seed Planters, Power and Hand Cider Mills, Dog Power Churning Machines, Ploughs, Harrows, Cultivators, Field Rollers, Road Scrapers, &c. &c.

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Careful and prompt attention given to all correspondence and inquiries.

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☞ Catalogues and Price Lists mailed free to all applicants on receipt of a two cent stamp.

☞ Correspondents will state they read advertisement in Ploughman.

Address carefully, to avoid delays,

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Milk and Vegetable Farm,

FOR SALE.

One mile from Concord Centre, 70 acres of the best land, one acre on a Avenue, mile at the door, wintered 15 cows besides young stock and three horses last winter—first rate building

Also, 15 MILCH COWS, (grade Ayrshire,) took first premium last fall.

For good road or work HORSES,

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Farm for Sale.

The Farm known as the Capt. Smith Tavern, situated in Orange, Mass., on the old stage road leading from Boston to Brattleboro, two miles from Athol, and churches and five miles from railroads. Said Farm consists of 120 acres of land suitably divided for farming purposes, including about 15 acres of wood and timber. Also a large two story house with two L, convenient for two families, two good barns and other outbuildings all in good repair. The above farm is in a good state of cultivation, well fenced and well watered, having running water to both house and barn from never failing springs. It is well adapted to raising all kinds of grain and fruits, and has at the present time a great variety of fruit trees in bearing condition, besides one of the largest and best maple orchards in the vicinity. For personal examination, or information, or to take summer boarders, this place cannot be excelled. Inquire on the premises of

A. E. BROOKS.

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First edition exhausted. Next edition already sold. This Church Music Book, the joint product of the best talent of the East and West, will be used immensely, both West and East. Good for Church Classes. Good for Quartette Choirs. Good for Conventions. Good for Societies and Singing Schools. Send at least, for specimen copy, which will be mailed for the present, *postpaid*, for $1.25.

Note. Just published, Strauss's New MANHATTAN WALTZ. First played with great success in New York. Price $1.00.

THE HOUR OF SINGING! By Emerson and Tilden Price $1.00. Good, practical, interesting Hour Singing Book. Already highly approved and widely used. Excellent also for Seminaries.

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FOR the treatment and cure of CANCERS and TUMORS in all their various forms, and all Chronic Diseases. DOCTOR PARK, who is so celebrated throughout New England, for his remarkable curse of *Cancers and Tumors*, in all their various forms, at the urgent request of his many patients, established an **Institute at 873 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.**, for the cure of that truly terrible disease, which he has for baffled the skill of our medical men. A written legal guarantee will be given that the Cancer or Tumor will be removed *without cutting, draw-ing of blood and very little pain.* Remember that all *Cancers are successfully treated* at this Institute. Advice and Examination $2 to $5. All letters for advice must contain $2, and two three cent stamps to reserve an answer. Patients from a distance will be sure of having the best of board and medical treatment at this Institute.

REFERENCES:

Samuel Finzy, M. D., Worcester, Mass.; Putnam Bush, M. D., Lowell, Mass.; Charles D. Norcross, M. D., Lowell, Mass.; T. M. Wadsworth, M. D., Boston, Mass.; G. Lang, M. D. Boston, Mass.; D. B. Gore, Esq., State Street, Boston, Mass.; John H. Trowbridge, M. D., Belvidere City, Delaware; Elder Rufus Wendell, Salem, Mass. References from patients can be seen at the Institute.

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Physician in Charge, 873 Washington St.

Boston, Mass.

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Excellent facilities for bathing, boating and fishing. Depot and Telegraph Office near.

Prices from $100 to $300 for Lots of 5000 to 10,000 feet each,

On Most Reasonable Terms.

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FARMERS should call and examine the

RANDALLS' PULVERIZING HARROW.

It thoroughly pulverizes the soil by cutting, lifting and turning it over.

Also, a full assortment of the **HUSSEY PREMIUM PLOWS,** at **E. E. LUMMUS'S,**

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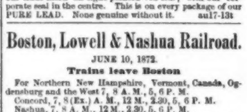

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IRON AND WIRE RAILINGS,

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The best for HOUSES, STABLES, GREENHOUSES, &c., is the

PEOPLE'S PUMP.

This is a powerful FORCE PUMP, and with Hose attached water can be forced over a common house or stable with ease.

Many other kinds of Pumps on hand. Also, HOSE, HOSE PIPES, &c.

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BOSTON PURE WHITE LEAD,

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Our Pure White Lead, both dry and ground in oil, we warrant to be STRICTLY PURE, and GUARANTEE that for *fineness, body* and *durability* it is not surpassed by any brands in the market, either Foreign or American.

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Boston, Lowell & Nashua Railroad.

JUNE 10, 1872.

Trains leave Boston

For Northern New Hampshire, Vermont, Canada, Ogdensburg and the West, 7 A. M., 5 P. M.

Concord, 7, 8 (Ex.) A. M., 12 M., 2.30, 5, 6 P. M.

Nashua, 7, 8 A. M., 12 M., 2.30, 5, 6 P. M.

Wilton, Milford and Amherst, 7 A. M., 12 M., 5 P. M. (Ex.)

Lowell, 7, 8 (Ex.) 10 A. M., (12 Ex.) 2.30, 4, 5, (6 Ex.) 6.30 P. M.

Billerica, 7, 10 A. M., 2.30, 5, 6.30 P. M.

Wilmington, 7, 10 A. M., 2.30, 5, 6.30 P. M.

Woburn Centre, 7, 7, 10, 11.30 A. M., 12.15, 3, 4, 5.15, 6.10, 6.30, 7.30, 9.20 P. M.

Stoneham, 7, 8 A. M., 12.15, 3, 4, 5.15, 6.30 P. M. Also on Wednesdays 11.15, and Saturdays at 10.20 P. M.

Winchester and West Medford, 7, 7, (8, Winchester), 10, 11½ A. M., 12, 3, 4, 5, 6.10, 6.30, 7, 9½ P. M.

College Hill, 6.45, 10, 11½ A. M., 3, 5.15, 6, 7, 9½ P. M.

Somerville Centre, 6.45, 8.10, 11½ A. M., 2, 4, 5.15, 6.10, 6, 7, 9½ P. M.

Winter Hill, 6.45, 10, 11.30 A. M., 12.15, 3, 5.15, 6.10, 6, 7, 9½ P. M.

Milk Row, 6.45, 11½ A. M., 3, 5.15, 6, 7, 9½ P. M.

Lexington and Arlington, 7.10, 8.10, 11.45 A. M., 2.45, 4.10, 5.10, 6, 6.30, 7.40, 9.35 P. M.

†Thursdays 10, Wednesdays 11.30, Saturdays 10.30 P. M. ‡Thursdays leave Boston at 11.15 P. M. Saturdays at 10 P. M.

Trains for Boston

Leave Wilton, 6.15, 11 A. M., 4.15 P. M.

Nashua, 7, 9, 11.45 A. M., 5, 5.45, 9 (Ex.) P. M.

Lowell, 7, 7.05, (7½ Ex.) 9½ A. M., (12.15 Ex.) 2.15, 5½, 6.15, 10.20 (Ex.) P. M.

Stoneham, 5.49, 6.37, 8.49, 10.15 A. M., 1.4.40, 6.17 P. M.

Woburn Centre, 6, 6, 7.35, 9, 10.25 A. M., 1.15, 4, 5, 6.25, 8.15§ P. M.

Winchester, 6, 6, 7.05, 7.40, 7.53, 9.05, 10½ A. M., 1.20, 3, 4.05, 5.05, 5.35, 6.00, 8.20§ P. M.

West Medford, 6.35, 7.15, 7.45, 9, 9.15, 10.35 A. M., 1.30, 3.07, 4.15, 5.15, 6.40, 7, 8.25§ P. M.

College Hill, 6.15, 7.10, 9.19, 10.40 A. M., 1.33, 3.10, 4.19, 5.19, 6.45, 8.30§ P. M.

Somerville Centre, 6.22, 7.22, 8.05, 9.22 A. M., 1.36, 4.22, 5.22, 6.50, 8.32§ P. M.

Winter Hill, 6.22, 7.25, 8.05, 9.25, 10.45 A. M., 1.40, 4.25, 5.25, 6.55, 8.36§ P. M.

Milk Row, 6.26, 7.26, 9.26, A. M., 1.41, 4.27, 5.26, 6.55, 8.38§ P. M.

Lexington and Arlington, 6.10, 7.10, 8.10, 9.15 A. M., 1.40, 5.10, 6.35§ P. M.

†Northern depot. §Wednesdays two hours later. ‡Thursdays leave Lexington at 10 P. M.

au17 JOHN B. WINSLOW, Sup't.

That Favorite Home Remedy,

PAIN-KILLER

Has been before the public over THIRTY YEARS, and probably has a wider and better reputation than any other proprietary medicine of the present day. At the period there are but few unacquainted with the merits of the PAIN KILLER: but, while some extol it as a liniment, they know but little of its power in easing pain when taken internally; while others use it internally with great success, but are equally ignorant of its healing virtues when applied externally. We therefore wish to say to all, that it is equally successful, whether used internally or externally. It is sufficient evidence of its virtues as a standard medicine to know that it is now used in all parts of the world, and that its sale is constantly increasing. No curative agent has had such a wide spread sale or given such universal satisfaction.

DAVIS' PAIN KILLER is a purely vegetable compound prepared from the best and purest materials, and with a care that insures the most perfect uniformity in the medicine; and while it is a most effective remedy for pain, it is a perfectly safe medicine, even in the most unskilful hands.

It is eminently a FAMILY MEDICINE; and by being kept ready for immediate resort, will save many an hour of suffering, and many a dollar in time and doctor's bills.

After over thirty years trial, it is still receiving the most unqualified testimonials to its virtues, from persons of the highest character and responsibility. Eminent physicians commend it as a most effectual preparation for the extinction of pain. It is not only the best remedy ever known for Bruises, Cuts, Burns, etc., but for Dysentery, or Cholera, or any sort of bowel complaint, it is a remedy unsurpassed for efficiency, and rapidity of action. In the great cities of India, and other hot climates, it has become the standard medicine for all such complaints, as well as for Dyspepsia, Liver Complaints, and other kindred disorders. For Coughs and Colds Canker Asthma, and Rheumatic difficulties, it has been proved by the most eminent and convincing testimony to be an invaluable medicine.

We would caution the public against all imitations of our preparation, either in name, or style of putting up.

aug3 4t

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THE BEST AND MOST APPROVED KINDS IN THE MARKET.

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Briggs & Bro.

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KISSING IN THE DARK.

DID YOU EVER!

WELL, if you want the Prettiest Piece of Music, and Words that just tell how it is, send 30 cents for Song and Chorus; full music size, KISSING IN THE DARK, to

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BONDS,

INCLUDING

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Boston & Albany Railroad 7s.
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A LIMITED NUMBER OFFERED

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and accrued interest.

In these Bonds "*the faith and credit of the State are solemnly and irrevocably pledged for the payment and redemption of the principal and interest on each and every bond.*"

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ARKANSAS CENTRAL RAILWAY,

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Special Mortgage Endorsement,

pledge their splendid endowment of Lands, Railroad Rolling Stock, Station Houses and all other property for the faithful payment of interest and principal, making this a

DOUBLE AND UNDOUBTED SECURITY

Interest payable April and October, at the Union Trust Company, New York.

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THE MAINE CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY now offers for sale a limited amount of its seven per cent Consolidated Bonds. Said Bonds have forty years to run, and are, by express authority of the Legislature of Maine, secured by a joint and several mortgage on the Railroads, franchises, and all the property, rent and personal, of the following united railroads, to wit:—**The Maine Central, Portland & Kennebec, Somerset & Kennebec, Androscoggin & Leeds & Farmington Railroads.** The security is ample. No better or safer investment for trust funds can be made. They are of the denominations of $100, $500, $1000, and $5000, registered and coupon, with interest payable semi-annually in Boston.

Price, Par and Interest.

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EIGHT PER CENT.

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I will sell at Public Auction, on **Thursday, the 29th of August, 1872, at 1 o'clock, P. M.,** on my Farm at Princeton, Worcester Co., Mass., my entire herd of JERSEYS, consisting of one Imported Bull, twenty Cows, (four imported) nine two-Year Olds, Heifers and five Calves, most of which have taken premiums at the New England Fairs. All registered in the American Jersey Herd Book.

Also, one pair HEREFORD OXEN, 6 years old.

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12 YEARLING EWES, half Cotswold and half Southdown.

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In all 200 acres, well watered, pleasantly located, with suitable buildings and smooth fields, 45 acres of heavy wood and timber, worth more than is asked for the whole; sugar orchard of 500 trees.

These Farms MUST BE SOLD. If in one purchaser, price $3000; or will be divided to suit buyers.

Address or apply to CALVIN LEARNED, on the premises, or ALLISON & MASON, 210 Broad St., Boston. au10-4t*

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Three lots of Land, viz: My HOME FARM, situated in the centre of Princeton, Worcester Co., Mass., two miles from depot, near two large summer resorts, containing 141 acres, 90 acres pasturing and wood, 50 mowing, all cut with a machine, 75 Pear trees, 200 nice Apple trees, good buildings, running water to House and Barn.

2d. Wachusett Mountain, in Princeton, containing 600 acres, 400 covered with wood and timber.

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One of the best Farms in West Sherborn. The late residence of A. P. WARE, on road leading from South Framingham to Holliston. Near depot. Contains about 60 acres of strong land suitable for any kind of farming; two story house with L; 9 large rooms. Barn, 36x50; large carriage house, all in good condition. 50 young trees in full bearing. Will be sold very low to settle estate. Price $4000.

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200 HUTCHINSON'S No. 2 CIDER AND WINE MILLS, with two hoops.
100 EXCELSIOR CIDER AND WINE MILLS, with two hoops.
100 AMERICAN CIDER AND WINE MILLS, with two hoops.
100 YOUNG AMERICAN CIDER AND WINE MILLS, with two hoops, large and strong.
100 WHITMAN'S CIDER AND WINE MILLS, with two hoops.
CAST IRON APPLE GRINDERS, DANIELS' IMPROVED CIDER MILLS.

The above is the largest and best assortment of CIDER MILLS to be found in this country.

10 Sizes of Cider and Wine Presses. Wrought and Cast Cider Mill screws of all sizes.

500 DOZEN TURN TABLE APPLE PARERS.
300 DOZEN LIGHTNING APPLE PARERS.
100 DOZEN PARERS, CORERS AND SLICERS.
50 DOZEN FLAILS.

Hay Cutters, Corn Shellers, Corn Crackers, Weather Vanes, Moits' and Farmers' Steam Boilers, Stable Furniture, Vegetable Cutters, Panning Mills, Nishwitz Patent Harrow and other Harrows, Water Drawers, Corn Knives, Wringing Machines, Cucumber Wood Pumps, Churns, Dexter and other Wheel Jacks, Plows, Plow Castings, Grindstones, Coffee and Spice Mills, Ox and Cattle Chains, Cranberry Rakes, etc., etc., with a complete assortment of all kinds of

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for the farm.

All for sale at the lowest cash prices. Send for circulars of Cider Mills, and come and see the Machines before purchasing.

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DOUBLE HARPOON HORSE HAY FORK,
The Celebrated HUSSEY PLOW,
HURLBUT'S PATENT WOOD AND IRON BEAM PLOW,
RANDALL'S PULVERIZING HARROW,
Cultivators, Horse Hoes, &c. &c
Standard Super Phosphates, Mineral Fertilizers, &c.

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Connecting with STAGES for

Crawford's and Glen.

Leave N. Conway 8 AM. 2 PM. | Leave N. Conway 8 AM. 2 PM.
Arrive Crawford's 1 PM. 6 PM. | Arrive at Glen 1 PM. 6 PM.

31 Miles Shorter to North Conway,
6 " " Crawford's,
50 " " Glen,

THAN VIA ANY OTHER ROUTE.

Fare from Boston to North Conway.. $5.00
" " " **Crawford's..... 6.50**
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THE ONLY LINE RUNNING THE CELEBRATED

PULLMAN PARLOR DAY CARS

BETWEEN

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SHORTEST AND BEST ROUTE

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Tickets at 83 and 87 Washington St.,

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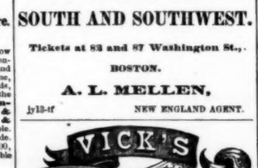

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WITH WOOD SAW ATTACHED. Ad dress
au10-4t N. N. ELLIS,
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50 CENTS

WILL BUY A POUND OF PRIME

OOLONG, JAPAN & ENG. BREAKFAST TEA.

At the Great Tea and Coffee Store of

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Families buying this Tea at

50 CENTS PER POUND

will be surprised at its great strength and fine delicate flavor

35c. PER POUND

For the very best lot of

OLD GOVERNMENT JAVA COFFEE

in this country, roasted. We have two large Coffee Mills run by steam; we grind to order customers at their purchasing, thus they get it pure and fresh ground, at 35 cents per lb.

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This Paint costs less than white lead, and will wear twice as long. It is of the purest white and all the fashionable shades mixed ready for use, and sold by the gallon only. Dries with a rich, glossy surface, and retains it. Warrant ed not to crack, peel, or chalk off by friction. Does not fade, spot, streak, nor mildew.

Send for Sample Card and recommendations.

LYMAN HATFIELD, Agent,

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For terms, apply to Earth Closet Co., Hartford, Conn.

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Contains a History of both Republican, Democratic, and Liberal Parties. Inside view of the Cincinnati Convention and minor tickets or side shows. Review of Grant's administration and queer record of Horace Greeley. Illustrated. Octavo, near 500 pages. A book wanted by every citizen. Send **$1.00** for outfit and secure territory. **UNION PUBLISHING CO.,** Philadelphia, Pa., Cincinnati, Ohio, Springfield, Mass., Savannah, Ga. au5-4t

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COCHINS, BRAHMAS, PLYMOUTH ROCKS, and FANTAIL PIGEONS, always on hand at these yards. Also eggs in season. *None but good Fowls and fresh Eggs sent.* These Fowl are strictly pure bred, and from the best strains of blood on either continent. Prices reasonable. Orders booked now, for Chickens in the Fall. "First come, first served," is the rule here, so hurry up.

Address as above, for Price List, *enclosing stamp.* jel-4t

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10 PAIR BLACK BREASTED RED GAME BANTAM CHICKENS, (yellow legs) for sale. Boxed and delivered at Express Office for $25 a pair. Also, a few Heathwood, Earl Derbies (white Legged Black Reds) Duckwings and Tartar Game Fowls at reasonable prices. Catalogues on application.

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Holbrook's Swivel Plows

Do perfect work without dead furrows or ridges.

Send for Circular. First level land & side hill, & hog meadows. Have Hinged Colters. Easy draft. Call at

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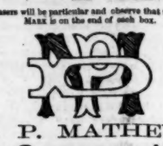
Purchasers will be particular and observe that this TRADE MARK is on the end of each box.



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FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF

Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Swine

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—ALSO—

Increasing the quantity of Milk in Cows

This Compound has been used with the most flattering results by some of the largest stock owners in this country, and is recommended with the fullest confidence in its efficacy. It is warranted to

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The Poet's Corner.

MARRIAGE.

BY CHARLOTTE A. CORDNER.

Is it to clasp the hands and whisper vows that bind
Us to a life-long duty?
To walk some toilsome road, and then to find
But perished beauty?

Or is it to have two lives flow in one stream,
With scarce a prayerful murmur—
Upon whose waves the sunbeams sport and gleam,
To make the love grow firmer?

Yes—more than this: if, when life's dream is o'er,
One heart's between us,
And in its book we find, forevermore,
That naught can wean us.

A PRAYER.

For the spirit confused
With misgiving and with sorrow
Let me, my Savior, borrow
The light of faith from thee.
O lift from it the burden
That bows it down before thee.
With sighs and with weeping
I commend myself to thee;
My faded life, thou knowest,
Little by little is wasted
Like wax before the fire,
Like snow-wreaths in the sun,
And for the soul that panteth
For its refuge in thy bosom,
Break, thou, the ice, my Savior,
That hinder it from thee.

Ladies' Department.

THE SECRET CLOSET.

In the year 18— John Smith (I use fictitious names) was indicted for the wilful murder of Henry Thompson. The case was one of a most extraordinary nature, and the interest excited by it was almost unparalleled. The accused was a gentleman of considerable property, residing upon his own estate. A person, supposed to be an entirr stranger to him, had, late in a summer's day, requested and obtained shelter and hospitality for the night. He had, it was supposed, after taking some light refreshment, retired to bed in perfect health, requesting to be awakened at an early hour the following morning.—When the servant appointed to call him entered his room for that purpose, he was found in his room perfectly dead; and from the appearance of the body it was obvious that he had been so for many hours. There was not the slightest mark of violence upon his person, and the countenance retained the same expression it had borne during life.

Days and weeks passed on, and little further was discovered. In the meantime rumor had not been idle. Suspicions were vague, indeed, and undefined, and were at first whispered, and afterward boldly expressed. The precise object of these suspicions was not clearly indicated; some implicated one person, some another; but they all pointed to Smith, the master of the house, as concerned in the death of the stranger; and, in fine, the magistrates were induced to commit Mr. Smith to jail to take his trial for the wilful murder of Henry Thompson. As it was deemed essential to the attainment of justice to keep secret the examination of the witnesses who were produced before the magistrates all the information of which the public were in possession before the trail took place was that which I have here narrated. Such was the state of things upon the morning of the trial.

The counsel for the prosecution opened his case to the jury in a manner that indicated very little expectation of a conviction. He began by imploring them to divest their minds of all that they had heard before they came into the box; he entreated them to attend to the evidence, and judge from that alone.

It would be proved beyond the possibility of a doubt that the deceased died by poison—poison of a most subtle nature, most active in its operation, and possessing the wonderful and dreadful quality of leaving no external mark or token by which its presence could be detected. The ingredients of which it was composed were of so sedative a nature that, instead of the body on which it had been used exhibiting any contortions, or marks of suffering, it left upon the features nothing but the calm and placid quiet of repose.

The prisoner's family consisted only of himself, a house keeper, and one man servant. The man servant slept in an out house adjoining the stable, and did so on the night of Thompson's death. The prisoner slept at one end of the house and the housekeeper at the other, and the deceased had been put into a room adjoining the housekeeper's.

It would be proved, by a person who happened to be passing by the house on the night in question, about three hours after midnight, that he had been induced to remain and watch, from having his attention excited by the circumstance, then very unusual, of a light moving about the house at that late hour. That person would state most positively that he could distinctly see a figure, holding a light, go from the room in which the prisoner slept to the housekeeper's room, that two persons then came out of the housekeeper's room, and the light disappeared for a minute. Whether the two persons went into Thompson's room he could not see, as the window of that room looked another way; but in about a minute they returned, passing quite along the house to Smith's room again; and in about five minutes the light was extinguished and he saw it no more.

Such was the evidence upon which the magistrate had committed Smith; and singularly enough, since his committal the housekeeper had been missing, nor could any trace of her be discovered.

Within the last week, the witness who saw the light had been more particularly examined, and in order to refresh his memory, he had been placed at dark, in the very spot where he had stood on that night, and another person was placed with him. The whole scene, as he had described it, was acted over again; but it was utterly impossible, from the cause above mentioned, to assert, when the light disappeared, whether the parties had gone into Thompson's room. As if, however, to throw still deeper mystery over this extraordinary transaction, the witness persisted in adding a new feature to his former statement; that after the persons had returned with the light into Smith's room, and before it was extinguished, he had twice perceived some dark object to intervene between the light and the window, almost as large as the surface of the window itself, and which he described by saying it appeared as if a door had been placed before the light.

Now, in Smith's room, there was nothing which could account for this appearance; his bed was in a different part, and there was neither cupboard nor press in the room, which, but for the bed, was entirely empty, the room in which he dressed being at a distance beyond.

He would state only one fact more, (said the learned counsel,) and having done his duty, it would be for the jury to do theirs. Within a few days there had been found in the prisoner's house, the stopper of a small bottle of a very singular appearance; it was apparently not of English manufacture, and was described by the medical men as being used by chemists to preserve those liquids which are most likely to lose their virtue by exposure to the air. To whom it belonged, or to what use they had been applied, there was no evidence to show.

Such was the address of the counsel for the prosecution; and during its delivery I had earnestly watched the countenance of the prisoner, who had listened too with deep attention. Twice only, did I perceive that it produced in him the slightest emotion. When the disappearance of the housekeeper was mentioned, a smile, as of scorn, passed over his lip; and the notice of the discovery of the stopper obviously excited an interest, and, I thought, an apprehension; but it quickly subsided. I need not detail the evidence that was given for the prosecution; it amounted in substance to that which the counsel stated, nor was it varied in any particular. The stopper was produced, and proved to be found in the house; but no attempt was made to trace it to the prisoner's possession, or even knowledge.

When the case was closed, the learned judge addressing the counsel for the prosecution, said he thought there was hardly sufficient evidence to call upon the prisoner for his defense; and if the jury were of the opinion they would at once step the case. Upon this observation from the judge, the jury turned round for a moment and then intimated their acquiescence in his lordship's views of the evidence. The counsel folded up their briefs, and a verdict of acquittal was about to be taken, when the prisoner addressed the court. He urged the judge to permit him to state his case to the jury, and to call his housekeeper, with so much earnestness, and was seconded so strongly by his counsel, that Lord Mansfield, though very much against his inclination, and contrary to his usual habit, gave way, and yielded to the request.

The prisoner then addressed the jury and entreated their patience for a short time. He repeated to them that he never could feel satisfied to be acquitted merely because the evidence was not conclusive, and pledged himself in a very short time, by the few observations he should make, to obtain their verdict upon much higher grounds—upon the impossibility of his being guilty of the dreadful crime.

Of the stopper which had been found, he disowned all knowledge; declared most solemnly, that he had never seen it before it was produced in court; and he asked, could the fact of its being found in his house only a few days ago, when hundreds of people had been there, produce upon an impartial mind even a momentary prejudice against him? One fact, and only one has been proved, to which it was possible for him to give an answer—the fact of his having gone to the bedroom of his housekeeper on the night in question.

He had been subject for many years of his life to sudden fits of illness; he had been seized with one on that occasion, and had gone to her to procure her assistance in lighting a fire. She had returned with him to his room for that purpose, he having waited for a minute in the passage while she put on her clothes, which would account for the momentary disappearance of the light; and after she had remained in his room for a few minutes finding himself better he had dismissed her, and retired again to bed from which he had not risen when he was informed of the death of his guest. It had been said that, after his committal to prisou, his housekeeper had disappeared. He avowed that, finding his enemies determined, if possible, to accomplish his ruin, he had thought it probable they might tamper with his servant; he had therefore kept her out of the way; but for what purpose? Not to prevent her testimony being given, for she was now under the care of his solicitor, and would instantly appear for the purpose of confirming, as far as she was concerned, the statement which he had just made.

Such was the prisoner's address, which produced a powerful effect. It was delivered in a firm and impressive manner, and its simplicity and artlessness gave it an appearance of truth. The housekeeper was then put into the box and examined by the counsel for the prisoner. According to the custom, at that time almost universal, of excluding witnesses from court until their testimony was required, she had been kept at a house near at hand, and had not heard a single word of the trial. There was nothing remarkable in her manner or appearance; she might be about thirty-five or a little more, with regular though not agreeable features, and an air perfectly free from embarrassment.

She repeated, almost in the prisoner's own words, the story he had told of his having called her up, and her having accompanied him to his room, adding that, after leaving him, she had retired to her own room and had been awakened by the man servant in the morning with an account of the traveler's death.

She had now to undergo a cross-examination; and I may as well state here that which, though not known to me till afterward, will assist the reader in understanding the following scene. The counsel for prosecution had, in his own mind, attached considerable importance to the circumstances mentioned by the witness who saw the light; that while the prisoner and the housekeeper were in the room of the former, something like a door, had intervened between the candle and the window, which was totally irreconcilable with the appearance of the room when examined; and he half persuaded himself that there must be a secret closet which had escaped the search of the officers of justice, the opening of which would account for the appearance alluded to, and the existence of which might discover the property which had so mysteriously disappeared.

His object, therefore, was to obtain from the housekeeper (the only person except the prisoner who could give any clue to this) such information as he could get, without alarming her by any direct inquiry on the subject which as she could not help seeing its importance, would have led her at once to a positive denial. He knew, moreover, that as she had not been in court, she could not know how much or how little the inquiry had brought to light; and by himself treating the matter as immaterial, he might lead her to consider it so, also, and by that means unsuspectedly draw forth all she knew. After some unimportant questions, he asked her in a tone and manner calculated rather to awaken confidence than to excite distrust:

During the time you were in Mr. Smith's room, you stated that the candle stood on the table, in the center of the room?—Yes.

Was the closet, or cupboard, or whatever you call it, opened once, or twice, while it stood there?—A pause; no answer.

I will call it to your recollection. After Mr. Smith had taken the medicine out of the closet, did he shut the door, or did it remain open?—He shut it.

Then it was opened again for the purpose of replacing the bottle, was it?—It was.

Do you recollect how long it was open the last time?—Not above a minute.

The door when open, would be exactly between the light and the window, would it not?—It would.

I forget whether you said the closet was on the right or left hand side of the window?—The left.

Would the door of the closet make any noise in opening it?—None.

Can you speak positively to the fact? Have you ever opened it yourself, or seen Mr. Smith open it?—I never opened it myself.

Did you never keep the keys?—Never.

Who did?—Mr. Smith always.

At this moment the witness chanced to turn her eyes toward the spot where the prisoner stood, and the effect was almost electrical. A cold, damp sweat stood upon his brow; his face had lost all its color; he appeared a living image of death. She no sooner saw him than she shrieked and fainted. The consequences of her answers flashed across her mind.

She had been so thoroughly deceived by the manner of the advocate and by the little importance he had seemed to attach to her statement, that she had been led on, by one question to another, till she had told him all that he had wanted to know.

During the interval (occasioned by her illness) as to the proceedings, the solicitor for the prosecution left the court. It was between four and five o'clock when the judge resumed his seat upon the bench, the prisoner in his station at the bar, and the housekeeper and others in the witness box: the court in the interval had remained crowded with spectators, scarce one of whom had left his place, lest, during his absence, it should be seized by some one else.

The cross-examining counsel then addressed the witness: I have a very few more questions to ask of you; but beware that you answer them truly, for your own life depends upon a thread.

Do you know this stopper?

I do.

To whom does it belong?

To Mr. Smith.

When did you see it last?

On the night of Mr. Thompson's death.

At this moment the solicitor for the prosecution entered the court, bringing with him, upon a tray, a watch, two money bags, a jewel case, a pocket book, and a bottle of the same manufacture as the stopper, and having no cork in it; some other articles there were in it not material to my story. The tray was placed upon the table in sight of the prisoner and the witness, and from that moment not a doubt remained in the mind of any man of the guilt of the prisoner.

A few words will bring my tale to a close. The house where the murder had been committed was between nine and ten miles distant. The solicitor, as soon as the cross examination had discovered the existence of the closet, and its situation, had set off on horseback, with two sheriff's officers, and after pulling down part of the wall of the house, had detected this place of concealment.

The search was well rewarded: the whole of the property belonging to Mr. Thompson, was found there, amounting in value to several thousand pounds; and to leave no doubt, a bottle was discovered, which the medical men instantly pronounced to contain the very identical poison which had caused the death of the unfortunate Thompson. The result is too obvious to need explanation.

The case presents the perhaps unparalleled instance of a man accused of murder, as to induce the judge and jury to concur in a verdict of acquittal, but who, persisting in calling a witness to prove his innocence, was, upon the testimony of that very witness, convicted and executed.

☞ Humility, as a Christian virtue, is opposed to arrogance and assumption. Men are apt to think too highly of themselves, and on account of adventitious circumstances, and accidental, rather than permanent or inherent qualifications. The fact that you may have large wealth does not make you a better man. You may have an exalted position in society; that will not give you excellence; it may be disadvantageous, in giving a greater prominence to your peculiarities.

☞ A tall story comes from Ohio. It is stated that a hog weighing about two hundred pounds by some means got fast under a stack of straw, and that it remained a prisoner for nine months, deprived of light, food and water. The stack being eaten down by cattle, the hog was released from the living tomb. He came forth a skeleton, but not too weak to eat. How a gross feeder like the hog could live nine months with nothing to eat or drink is miraculous; and as we do not believe in miracles in this practical age, we gag in the attempt to swallow the yarn.

LITERARY MADMEN.

Dr. Doreau (de Tours) has written a work in which he contends that genius arises from the same organic conditions as insanity, and is, in fact, synonymous with it. His theory substantially amounts to this: That genius like insanity, is a symptom of disease of the brain. Without conceding all that is claimed by Dr. Moreau, it cannot be denied that a very large number of the geniuses of the world have been either melancholic or very eccentric, and, in some instances, have been the victims of violent and repeated attacks of insanity. Dr. Johnson was hypochondriacal, and in various ways gave evidence of a morbid condition of the brain. At the early age of twenty he became the victim of melancholic delusions, and from that time forward was never happy. On one occasion he exclaimed, despairingly, "I would consent to have an arm amputated, to recover my spirits." Wretchedness like this when it is temporary or spasmodic, may signify but little; but when it is presistent and lifelong, it must be regarded as the symptom of cerebral disease that may and often does, advance to absolute madness. The violent impetuosity of Dr. Johnson, his unreasonable prejudices, may be accounted for on the same theory. Some of the brightest geniuses in literature have been at intervals subject to attacks of madness. Southey lived for years in perpetual dread of insanity, and when at last he kneeled in the furrow, worn out through mental excitement and fatigue, he composed that most instructive and useful of his works, "The Life of Cowper." That Rousseau was a lunatic will be admitted without question by those who have studied his life and writings, however ardently they may admire his genius. Pascal was one of the most original thinkers of France, but no inmate of any asylum ever presented more indisputable proofs of mental disease than those which characterized his whole career. All his life he walked in darkness, knowing not at what he stumbled, in constant fear both of the present and of the future. He was the victim of absurd delusions, was harassed by excessive nervousness, and was the slave of uncontrollable eccentricities. On examination after death, his brain was found to be very seriously diseased.—*Dublin University Magazine.*

MENTAL VIGOR IN OLD AGE.

Of a celebrated writer, whose age is 67, it is said: "He now lives in retirement, having given up all labors, literary and otherwise." How often in this record made of men whose powers are unimpared and whose labors, if continued, might bless the world to the end of time.

It is related of Arnauld, the Jansenist, that he wished his friend Nicole to assist him in a new work. Nicole replied; "We are now old; is it not time to rest?" "Rest?" exclaimed Arnauld, "have we not all eternity to rest in?"

Dr. Samuel Miller says: "There is no doubt that the premature dotage of many distinguished men has arisen from their ceasing in advanced life to exert their faculties, under the impression that they were too old to engage in any new enterprise."

When John Adams was 90 years of age he was asked how he kept the vigor of his faculties up to that age. He replied, "By constantly employing them. The mind of an old man is like an old horse; if you would get any work out of it you must work it all the time."

We have many remarkable instances of earnest and successful workers after they had passed into the period known as old age.

Ecclesiastical history tells the story of Cassiodorus, who, at the age 70, retired to a monastery and devoted the remaining twenty years of his life to literature and religion; and of Epiphanius, who became an author at 64, and wrote several large works before his death.

Between the age of 58 and 67, Baxter wrote forty works; after the age of 66 some of his most valuable works were written.

When an old man Baxter was brought before the notorious Judge Jeffries on a charge of sedition; during the trial Baxter ventured to put in a word for himself.

"Richard, Richard," roared the Judge, "dost thou think we will hear thee poison the Court? Richard, thou art an old fellow, and old knave! Thou has written books enough to load a cart, every one as full of sedition, I might say treason, as an egg is full of meat. Hadst thou been whipped out of the writing trade forty years ago it had been happy."

"The only remarkable thing," says Hannah More, "which belonged to me as an authoress, was that I had written eleven books after the age of sixty."

Says Lord Brougham, at the conclusion of his autobiography: "If any statements have been feebly and some inaccurately rendered, let it be remembered that I began this attempt after I was 83 years of age, with enfeebled health, failing memory, and but slight materials by me to assist it."

Plato died at the age of 81, it is said, with pen in hand; and an account is given of another who wrote a history of his times at the age of 115.

I'M A TWIN.

In form and feature, face and limb,
I grew so like my brother,
That folks got taking me for him,
And each one for another.
It puzzled all our kith and kin,
It reached a fearful pitch,
For one of us was born a twin,
And not a soul knew which!

One day, to make the matter worse,
Before our names were fixed,
As we were being watched by nurse,
We got completely mixed;
And thus, you see, by fate's decree,
Or rather nurse's whim,
My brother John got christened me,
And I got christened him!

This fatal likeness even dogged
My footsteps when at school,
And I was always getting flogged
When John turned out a fool.
I put this question fruitlessly
To every one I knew,
"What would you do if you were me,
To prove that you were you?"

Our close resemblance turned the tide,
Of my domestic life,
For, somehow, my intended bride,
Became my brother's wife.
In fact, year after year, the same
Absurd mistakes went on,
And when I died, the neighbors
Came and buried brother John!

MENTAL POWER IN MEN AND WOMEN.

Regarding this oft-discussed question, Professor Maudsley says: "It has been affirmed by some philosophers that there is no essential difference between the mind of a woman and that of a man; and that if a girl were subjected to the same education as a boy, she would resemble him in tastes, feelings, pursuits and powers. To my mind it would not be one whit more absurd to affirm that the antlers of the stag, the human beard, and the cockscomb are effects of education; or that by putting a girl to the same education as a boy she could be sexually transformed into one. The physical and mental differences between the sexes intimate themselves very early in life, and declare themselves most distinctly at puberty. If the person is hermophrodite, the mental character, like the physical, participates equally in that of both sexes. If either sex is mutilated, it approaches in character the opposite sex. While woman preserves her sex, she will necessarily be feebler than man, and, having her special bodily and mental characters, will have, to a certain extent, her own sphere of activity. When she has pretty well divested herself of her sex, she may then take his ground and do his work; but she will have lost her feminine attractions, and probably also her chief feminine functions."

☞ I remember watching, last summer, spiders that burrowed in the crevices of a trellis, where the wind had borne much dust. I noticed that the hole where they lay lurking looked dark and ugly. I also noticed, as I sat one day watching, a vagrant spider take a morning glory in full blossom, and spin his web over the mouth of it. And there never was a prettier nest in the world—a nest more richly gemmed with beauty—than his was. But after all it was the same spider, whether he lay in the dark hole at the corner of the trellis, or in the blossom of that exquisite flower. Now, selfishness may weave its web in the dusky places, or in the hideous looking recesses of a man's disposition, or about the mouths of graces and sweet affections; but it is the same selfishness after all. The place is changed, and the appearance of the surroundings is changed, but the spider is not changed.—*H. W. Beecher.*

☞ The ghosts of the Pharaohs will soon be startled by the scream of the locomotive. The survey for a railroad in the valley of the Nile is contemplated. It is about six hundred miles in length, for nearly three-fourths of which distance the line will be on the edge of the valley, about three-fourths of a mile from the river, and above the level of the periodical inundations.

☞ How often we feel and act as if our mood were the atmosphere of the world! It may be a cold frost within us while our friend is in the glow of a summer's sunset; and we call him unsympathetic and unfeeling.—*Geo. MacDonald.*

FIGHT WITH AN ALLIGATOR.

A few years since, "circumstances over which I had no control"—this, I believe is a popular way of putting it—had reduced me from affluence to poverty. I was but twenty-four years of age, strong of heart and of limb; and so, instead of idling away my life at home, I resolved to emigrate to South America, where an old friend of my father's was likely to aid me in the restoration of my fallen fortunes. I reached Buenos Ayres in due season, and soon after found myself at the estancia of Don Miguel Ramon, of Cerrado, near the city of St. Jago de los Caballos.—Don Miguel was a very wealthy man, growing cotton and coffee, tobacco and corn, as well as other South American productions but deriving, in patriarchal fashion, the greater part of his income from his flocks and herds. Unfortunately, he was a widower, with only one child, a boy, now of some five years of age, and of whom his father was dotingly fond. Here I was frankly and generously welcomed, and, what with riding my host's horses, shooting among his rice fields, aiding him in his accounts, and giving little Charlie lessons in French and English, I passed my time most agreeably.

I was returning from a half built sugar mill one day, perhaps a month after my first arrival at the hacienda, at about four o'clock in the afternoon. I had left the dingy complexioned masons sipping their chocolate, and had received the foreman's solemn assurance that a fresh course of blocks properly cemented should be laid before he permitted his gang to give over work. I was riding homeward, then, thinking of many things—of the old days at home; of friends and schoolfellows that I should perhaps never see again in the flesh; of——

"What was that? A cry of pain?" Yes, a cry, certainly of pain or terror—the shrill, appealing cry of a child's agonised voice; and I started and wheeled my horse towards the quarter from which the sounds seemed to come. The cry was repeated, more feebly than before; and as I had now no doubt as to the direction whence the call for help proceeded, I dashed across a ravine, and scrambling up the steep bank opposite, came in sight of the chain of lagoons, connected with the mighty Rio Plata by a small river, which skirted the plantations of rice and tobacco, and on the banks of which I had shot many a snipe and flamingo. Here, at the edge of a cane-bordered creek that ran up from the nearest lagoon into the broken ground where the hillocks were gay with purple rhododendrons and the wild geraniums, I beheld a sight that chilled my blood with horror.

Close to the margin of the water, knee-deep in the flowers and tall Pampas grass, just where the white and yellow pond lilies mingled with the rich colored blossoms of the flowered prairie, was a child—little Charlie—Don Miguel's hope and heir—the one tie to life and its affections. I knew the bare little golden head at once. But the boy stood, rooted to the ground, transfixed by terror, crouching down, his blue eyes, dilated by mortal fear, fixed on something huge, shapeless, unclean, that drew nearer and nearer yet, a grim and monstrous thing, that had more the aspect of a large log, glistening with slimy mud, than of anything else. What is the ugly thing that has crawled out from the creek, fringed with bushes of the laurel-rose, and that is clumsily climbing the bank with awkward hurry of its ungainly claw-tipped feet? An alligator, by Heaven! for I see the slanting sunlight glisten on its scaly back, and the formidable jaws open and display the curved row of gleaming white teeth, as, with its cruel red eye fixed upon its prey, it approached the spot where stood the fated child, frozen by a terror that denied him the power to flee.

"Run, Charlie, run! run towards me!" I called aloud, at the same time urging my horse down the bank. The little fellow turned his pale face towards me, and recognised me; but fear was still too potent with him, and he remained where he was, crying out to "Mirry Warburton" to save him. I dashed in the spurs rowel deep, and at one bound came crashing through the rhododendrons to within some three or four feet of the place where the child stood. The alligator wheeled angrily round, to confront the intruder who dared to come between him and his toothsome supper; and my horse, driven wild with terror at the sight and smell of the monstrous reptile, reared, awerved, and threw me, galloping off like a mad creature. I was on my feet in a moment, and had just time to throw myself between the alligator and the boy before the bloodthirsty jaws could close in the first fatal snap. The brute recoiled a little, for alligators are cowardly as well as fierce, and they have been known to watch for hours in their reedy ambush, allowing men to pass them uninjured, until they could pounce securely on a woman or a child. But the reptile's slow blood had been too much stirred by the expectation of an easy triumph to permit him to decline the fight, and he crawled in upon me, uttering the hoarse cry, half roar, half whimpering moan, that a cayman gives under the sting of pain or fury.

I had my sheath knife out, a strong double-edged blade of Barcelona steel, with a cross handle and buckthorn haft; but this seemed a poor weapon against such a foe. By a hasty impulse—one of those life saving thoughts that come upon us at moment of extreme peril, as if they were the whisperings of inspiration—I tore the blue woolen poncho from my shoulders—happily, I had adopted the new Spanish style of dress—and, wrapping the mantle around the tough handle of my whalebone riding whip, I forced it between the alligator's jaws as he closed with me, while at the same time, bending forward, I struck hard with my two edged knife at his white throat, which was comparatively unprotected. The first stab told, for the white streak was soon crimsoned with blood; but the second stroke failed, and the knife slipped, and rattled uselessly on the armor plates of the creature's mailed back; and then began a struggle for death or life between my terrible antagonist and myself. My strength was nothing to that of the huge reptile, and I felt myself dragged to right and left as if I had been a rat in the gripe of a terrier, yet I held on fast to the whalebone handle of the whip, while the sharp teeth vainly gnashed and tore at the spongy wool that clogged them, and I retained my hold in sheer desperation, striking in with my knife whenever I got a chance, but usually baffled by the tenacious armor of my invulnerable adversary.

Clearly, a few feet distant, was sobbing piteously, at times crying aloud in appeal to Guachos whom he knew—"Sancho!" "Diego!" "El Negro!"—to help "Mirry Warburton;" for the dear little fellow, delivered from his first agony of alarm, seemed now to think only of my peril. The idea was a good one, although the child's weak voice could not of course reach far. Exerting the full strength of my lungs, I twice shouted forth the well known desert cry when a jaguar is sighted: "Mozos, a mi!—El Tigre!—Mo-zos!"—and I fancied, as I uttered the second call, that I heard a distant answer, like a faint echo. But now I had need of all my breath and all my muscles, for the infuriated animal with which I fought, tearing the cloth of the soft mantle to pulp, was gradually getting its grim jaws free. Twice already, had my wrist and arm been grazed by its keen teeth—I bear the white scars to this day—and the horrible odor of the creature, and the remorseless glare of its small bloodshot eye, impressed me with the fantastic notion that my enemy was something evil beyond the mere furious greed of a wild beast. Yet I grasped the whalebone whip handle, and drove in the knife with all the force of an arm that was fast growing exhausted. Spent, breathless, giddy, I was dragged down, and in a kneeling attitude, exerted the remains of my waning strength in a stab at the alligator's throat. The blade broke short off by the handle as it lodged among the stout scales of the neck.

Just then I heard a shout, and the tramp of a horse coming up at full and furious speed. On they came, the steed foam flecked and gored by the spur, the rider brandishing high above his head the spiral coils of the lasso. I recognised the horseman in an instant. It was Juan, the Guacho, the boldest and most dexterous of all that Centaur brotherhood; and he knew me, and comprehended at a glance the state of affairs.

"Stand back, Englishman—stand back!" he cried aloud, "and I'll do the rest; Mozos! —El Tigre!—Mo-zos!" And he whirled the lasso high, spurring his frightened horse nearer and nearer to the spot.

Reeling, breathless, and dizzy of brain, I understood the Guacho's meaning sufficiently to stand back, letting go my hold of the tough whip handle, which, with the tattered poncho wrapped around it, I had hitherto obstinately kept between the alligator's churning jaws. The infuriated brute followed me up with bitter hate, his hateful snout all but brushing my knee as I staggered back. But just at that instant, whirr! crack! came the well known sound of the heavy lasso whistling past, launched with unerring aim, and as I gazed about me with haggard eyes, I saw that the noose was tightening round the reptile's neck; while Juan, with the end of the stout cord fastened to his saddle, had started off at a canter, towing along the alligator after him, as he had tugged along many a bull and many a wild steed.

For an instant it seemed as if the Guacho's would be an easy triumph; but it was only the surprise of the shock that had mastered the alligator, a very large one, and a great weight and strength which soon began to tell. I saw the horse brought, with a jerk, to a stop, and then, to my dismay, beheld steed and rider dragged by sheer force towards the lagoon, vainly striving to resist the superior power of the gigantic tyrant of the waters. Juan drove in his spurs, urging his panting and terrified horse by voice, hand, and knee, to put out its whole strength; but it soon seemed plain that unless the saddle girths give way, dragged down into the pool he would be, horse and man, while there could be in such a case little doubt of the issue of the conflict. To cut the cord, would have been the only mode of separating the combatants in this unequal duel; but I had let fall my broken knife in the long Pampas grass, and a Guacho clings to his lasso with the same mechanical impulse that causes a seaman to hold fast to shroud or stay. "Let go the rope!" I called out to him as loudly as I could. "Loose the end from the saddle ring, and let the end go!" But Juan paid no heed to my advice, but spurred his struggling horse, uttering at the full pitch of his voice the "tiger call" of the herdsmen.

The child had crept close to me, and was holding on to my coat, weeping and calling on his absent father, and his presence embarrassed me; for, wearied and disarmed as I was, I felt eager to come to the aid of the bold lad, who had saved me from the very jaws of death; but just at the moment that the mulatto girl, Charlie's nurse, came running down the hill with sobs and outcries in search of the truant charge who had strayed off while she was threading scarlet berries for a necklace, four of our mounted men came thundering down with cheery shouts and lassoes whirled aloft; and in a very short time the alligator, strong and savage as he was, noosed and entangled by the pliant cords, stabbed with knives, and beaten down by bolas, lay dead and harmless.

Before we left the spot, a number of other persons, alarmed by the "tiger-call"—never before heard so near the hacienda itself—came up, and among the last of these was Don Miguel, already instructed by a mounted messenger as to what had occurred. He arrived, pale with emotion, sprang from his horse, and clasped his little son in his arms, eyeing the child all over with jealous anxiety, as if to be assured that he was really unscathed; then, coming up to me, he grasped both my hands, and before I could prevent him, kissed them as fervently as ever devotee pressed his lips to the relics of a saint.

THE BIOGRAPHY OF A DOG.

The writer once owned a dog. He was a spurious pointer which a wicked wag palmed off upon me as a full blooded and well bred descendant of a well known hunter, noted for his intelligence and discriminating nose. I called him Ponto in his puppyhood, but, as he grew older, and the fraud developed, I changed his name to Knave. He was a good hunter—for sheep—but his nose could not be depended on for feathered game. He would come to a dead point on a grasshopper, and run headlong over a covey of quail the next moment. Knave's best hold, however, was in the circus line. He had a very extensive circle of low bred acquaintances, and was ringmaster of a canine hippodrome, which met every night in the flower garden. Knave had been having a deal of fun at my expense, so one day I concluded to have a little fun at his. I took him out about half a mile away from home, tied an oyster can to his tail, gave him a stimulating kick, and turned him adrift. I never suspected the speed there was in that dog. He looked like a white and liver colored comet whizzing through space. I have observed that nothing encourages a dog so much, or tends more to the development of his speed, than to make him the medium for the rapid transit of tinware between given points. Knave having yielded such splendid sport, I tried him again and again, until he began to take an interest in the proceedings. He would back and stand quietly while the oyster can was being attached to his thick plebeian tail, and then at the word he would start at his highest speed, as if shot from a cannon. His affectation of fright was the best piece of acting I ever saw, and he quickly seized upon opportunities of adding to the sensational features of the display. His favorite run of a Saturday afternoon was around the circular rack surrounding the Court house grounds, to which from one to two hundred rural horses were generally hitched, all of which would take fright, break their halters and start for home at a lively canter. That noble dog also delighted in scudding down a sidewalk crowded with people, upsetting the men by running between their legs, and frightening the women into convulsions.

Once he grew impatient at the long delay in lashing his freight to the tail, and started prematurely, running a hundred yards at a slapping pace before he discovered that he was a flying light. He sneaked back looking sheepishly apologetic, backed up again, and waited until a bunch of tin clippings was securely fastened.

By and by, these dog races became an old thing with us boys, but the appetite grew upon Knave, until he didn't feel in good health if he missed his diurnal "spurt." Then he got to collecting all the tin ware he found lying around loose, and storing it up for future use. If, by any chance we forgot to exercise him, he would go to his tin pile, select a promising oyster can or section of stove pipe, carry it in his mouth to one of his biped friends, and beg piteously to have it tied on. Knave's enthusiasm for the turf finally led him on to his death. As he grew older his taste grew more fastidious. He came to prefer new tin ware to that which was tarnished by atmospheric oxidation, and having little respect for either moral or statute laws, he stole abundantly from the village shop. Finally, an apprentice detected him in the act of setting off with a string of pint cups fresh from the mint and gave him a fatal clip with the hammer, which caused him to yield up his frisky ghost. We buried him on the hill with a *hic jacet* head board, bearing an inscription to the effect that we could have spared a better dog.

If any one doubts the truth of this story, I can show him the place where Knave is buried.—*Missouri Democrat.*

WHAT CONSTITUTES A HABITUAL DRUNKARD.

THE DISEASE OF INEBRIETY.

The select committee of the English House of Commons appointed to inquire into the best plan for the control and management of habitual drunkards, have made a report from which it appears that they examined constables, magistrates, coroners, inspectors of insane asylums, managers of reformatories, physicians and surgeons from different sections of Great Britain, and Dr. Parrish of New York city, with his colleague, Dr. Dodge of Binghampton, New York, and have presented to the House of Commons the result of their careful and deliberate inquiry. A few points of their report will be noticed as follows:

"An entire concurrence of all the witnesses in the absolute inadequacy of existing laws to check drunkenness."

"That small fines and short imprisoments are useless."

"That occasional drunkenness frequently passes into the condition of a disease uncontrolable by the individual."

"That self-control is suspended or annihilated."

"That this is confined to no class, condition, nor sex, and hardly to any age."

"That the moderate use of alcholic liquors is unattended by any bad effects, while there is much to prove that excess in ardent spirits is far more deleterious than similar excess in wine and beer.

"That it is in evidence that there is a very large amount of drunkenness among all classes and both sexes, which never becomes public, or is dealt with by the authorities, but which is probably even a more fertile source of misery, poverty and degradation than that which comes before the police courts.

"That there is a difference between the paroxysm of intoxication and insanity proper, so distinct as to forbid the plea in bar of punishment that an offence was committed while drunk; still, placing inebriates in lunatic asylums is improper and should not be allowed.

"That when acts of violence or other offences are superadded to the drunkenness, the ordinary punishment awarded by law to those offences should be carried out, and committal to a reformatory may form part of a sentence, or it may be left to the discretion of the magistrate to send him at once to an inebriate reformatory.

"That sanitaria or inebriate reformatories are producing considerable good in effecting amendment and cures in those who have been treated in them."

The committee recommend that sanitaria or inebriate reformatories for those who, notwithstanding the plainest conditions of health, interest and duty, are given over to habits of intemperance, so as to render them unable to control themselves, and incapable of managing their own affairs, or such as to render them in any way dangerous to themselves or others, should be provided; that these should be divided into two classes—private for those who can pay their own way, and public for those who cannot.

☞ Somebody wrote to the editor of a paper to inquire how he would break an ox. The editor replied as follows: "If only one ox, a good way would be to hoist him, by means of a long chain attached to his tail, to the top of a pole forty feet from the ground. Then hoist him by a rope tied to his horns to another pole. Then descend on to his back a five ton pile driver, and if that fails to break him, let him start a country newspaper and trust people for subscriptions. One of the two ways will do it."

Domestic Economy.

VALUABLE RECIPES.

GRAPE WINE.—*Mr. Editor,*—As this is near the season for making grape wine, I send you the following recipe, which is so simple and produces such excellent wine, that I hope every one having grapes will try it:

Five Gallons Wine. Express the juice from twenty pounds of grapes, rinse the pulp and skins in as much water as will cover them, mash them and strain through a coarse cloth, add this to the juice and put in two pounds of brown sugar to each gallon; when the sugar is dissolved, pour the whole into a keg, having the bung open, and let it stand where the temperature will be about seventy degrees until *fermentation ceases*; then bung tight and let it rest for a month to settle, when it should be drawn off quietly, the keg well washed, and the wine returned to it, adding one pound good raisins; and if the wine does not seem sweet enough two pounds sugar may be added to the whole. The necessity of doing this depends upon the kind and quality of the grapes.

The wine should remain until the keg is wanted the next season, when it may be bottled for use.—*Germantown Telegraph.*

POTATO PUDDING.—Mix together twelve ounces of boiled mashed potatoes, one ounce suet, one ounce (one sixteenth of a pint) of milk, and one ounce of cheese. The suet and cheese to be melted or chopped as fine as possible. Add as much hot water as will convert the whole into a tolerably stiff mass; then bake it for a short time in an earthen dish, either in front of the fire or in an oven. —*Western Rural.*

DIET FOR DIARRHŒA. Roast some rice as you would coffee; then grind it in a coffee mill; then dissolve two ounces of gum arabic in one pint of hot water; when dissolved put it in a tea cup of rice, and let it boil twenty minutes, or until it is the consistency of mush. If too thick, as you use it, thin it with hot water. Desperate cases have been cured by this remedy.

THOUGHTS AT TABLE D'HOTE OVERLOOKING A GRAVEYARD.

"Not where he eats, but where he is eaten."—*Hamlet.*

I linger here, where mortals come to eat,
At tables laden with a bounteous spread,
And outward look upon that calm retreat,
My youth's familiar garden of the dead.

Precepts and proverbs o'er the graves I find,
"Ashes to ashes, dust to dust" they say,
But through the brooding chambers of my mind,
This thought is running as I gaze to-day:

That here we sit and pamper ripening forms,
Fit for the harvest, when death's trumpet calls,
And there the feasting follows to the worms;
So thus my vision spans two banquet halls.
—*Boston Journal.*

THE TRUE WAY TO REST.

Of all the miseries which can assail a man of action and affairs the greatest, perhaps, is the custody of his own faculties when suddenly banished from, or lifted out of, the arena of duty and service. Many a soldier to whom every day brought tedious marches, short rations and mortal perils, and who had longed for years for the security and plenty of his own village home, has lived to prove that white winged peace which bore him to a mother's arms to be a condemnation to a sluggishness and monotony of life for which he